

GAZETTEER OF INDIA
RAJASTHAN
AJMER

RAJASTHAN DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



सत्यमेव जयते

AJMER

By

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JAIPUR

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The officers of this Directorate have done useful team work in the compilation of the volume.

MAYA RAM
Director, District Gazetteers,
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GAZETTEER OF AJMER DISTRICT

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MAP OF AJMER DISTRICT

CHAPTER I

GENERAL

INTRODUCTORY

Origin of Name

The district derives its name from the headquarters town of Ajmer. Before independence, Ajmer-Merwara was an isolated province of British India in Rajputana. It comprised two districts, viz., Ajmer and Merwara. The Sanskrit word 'meru' (hill) was a component part of the names of both the districts. In Ajmer it was combined with the name of Raja Aja, the traditional founder of the City and the fort (Taragarh); in Merwara, it expressed the physical features only.¹ The ancient name of the city was Ajaymeru which later became Ajmer through colloquial corruption.

The word Meru in Ajay-Meru really means a hill and it will be better to take Ajaya as a qualifying adjective to Meru (hill) implying that this hill was invincible or unconquerable to enemies probably due to its inaccessibility.

This meaning appears to be more plausible rather than identifying this "Aja" or "Ajaya" with Ajayaraja—a Chauhan Prince of the early 12th century A.D. and making him the founder of Ajmer as some scholars have actually done. The various ruins and relics at Taragarh and Ajmer are surely of much earlier date and should not be taken to belong to a date as late as the 12th century A.D. If, however, the tradition of the foundation of the city of Ajmer and fortress of Taragarh is to be ascribed to Raja Aja, we must identify that King with an earlier Chauhan Prince preferably with Jayaraja or Jayapala (successor of Purnatalla) who ruled in the 7th century A.D. He may be taken as the traditional founder and not the 12th century Chauhan King Ajayaraja (father of Arnoraja) who is associated with founding the city of Ajmer and Ajay-Meru Durg in later times.

Ajmer remained under the Central Government as a part 'C' (centrally administered) State till 31st October 1956, whereafter it was merged with Rajasthan according to the recommendations of the States Reorganization Commission. Ajmer district as it emerged

1. C. C. Watson : Rajputana District Gazetteer; Vol. I-A; Ajmer-Merwara; 1904; p. 1.

TOPOGRAPHY

Divisions

The district has no natural divisions. The boundaries are territorial. The district is composed of four sub-divisions: (1) Ajmer, (2) Beawar, (3) Kekri, and (4) Kishangarh. It has in all one city, seven towns and 976 villages. The Ajmer sub-division forms the northern portion of the district. It is more or less triangular in shape and is compact in formation with the exception of a few villages. It is generally a level plain interspersed with low hills, which run practically in the north-westerly direction in the upper part of the sub-division. The Beawar sub-division is an irregular terrain lying in the south-west of the district and is composed of two detached blocks lying length-wise with a breadth varying between four to 12 miles (6.4 km. to 19.2 km.) and intersected by a narrow strip of Udaipur district. This tract is generally hilly. The Kekri sub-division forms the south-eastern portion of the district. It is a compact area composed of two blocks separated by territory of Kishangarh sub-division. This tract is a level plain. The Kishangarh sub-division forms the eastern portion of the district. Leaving out of account five small isolated patches, the territory consists of two narrow strips of land, separated from each other. The northern and larger of these two tracts, is for the most part sandy.

Configuration and Hill System

The distinguishing feature of the district is the Aravalli range, the strong barrier, which divides the plains of Marwar from the high table land of Mewar. The range, which commences at the 'Ridge' at Delhi, comes into prominence near the town of Ajmer, where it appears in a parallel succession of hills. The highest point reached is 2,855 feet (869 metres) above the sea-level near Ajmer. The Nagpahar or the serpent hill, three miles west of Ajmer city, attains a scarcely inferior elevation. The plateau on which the town of Ajmer stands, marks the highest point on the plains of India; and from the hills, which hem it in, the terrain slopes away on every side. The range of hills between Ajmer and Nasirabad marks the dividing watershed of the continent of India. The rain which falls on the southern or Nasirabad side, finds its way through the Chambal into the Bay of Bengal; that which falls on the other side is discharged by the Luni into the Gulf of Cutch.¹

The range of hills on which Taragarh stands, bends westwards from the city of Ajmer and the country for several miles in the direction

1. C. C. Watson : Rajputana District Gazetteer; Vol. I-A; 'Ajmer-Merwara; 1904; p. 2.

of Beawar is open. About 16 km. (10 miles) from Ajmer the hills disappear for a short distance, but in the neighbourhood of Beawar form a compact double range which approach each other at Jawaja, 22.530 km. (14 miles) further south, and finally meet at Kukra, in the north of Todgarh tahsil from which a succession of hills and valleys extends to the farthest extremity of the district. The chain then finally merges into the Vindhyan System near the isolated hill of Abu. On the Marwar or western side of Merwara, the hills become very bold and precipitous and Goramji, which lies about 11.269 km. (seven miles) to the south-west of Todgarh, has an elevation of 933.72 metres (3,075 feet). The average level of the valley is about 548.83 metres (1,800 feet). The northern tract of the Kishangarh sub-division is crossed by three parallel ranges of Aravallis from south-west to north-east. The highest peak in the Kishangarh sub-division area is 623.33 metres (2,045 feet) above sea level. The average height from sea level in this area, is 60.96 to 152.40 metres (200 to 500 feet).

Passes

In the tahsil of Beawar there are four well-known passes. The Barr pass on the west is a portion of the National Highway from Agra to Ahmadabad and is metalled throughout. On the eastern side are the Pakheria and Sheopura Ghats, the first leading to Masuda and the second to Mewar. There is also the Sura Ghata Pass, which leads to Mewar. Near Todgarh there are the Kachbali, Pipli Undabari Sarupa Ghat and Dewair passes leading from Merwara into Marwar. There are no passes worth the name in Ajmer except where the road to Pushkar, six miles (9.65 km.) west of Ajmer city, traverses a dip in the Nagpahar range.

Vegetation

It is regretable that there are only a few clusters of trees to be met with in the district. Except on the embankment of Jawaja tank, it is difficult to find shade. Even in the forests the trees are generally mean and scrubby in appearance and round Ajmer, the humble euphorbia supplies their place on the hill sides. Only near wells or in the watered gardens of the towns do they attain any height or luxuriance of foliage. Low cover is scanty, both on the slopes of the hills and in the valleys. After good rains the grass grows to a height of two or three feet, but it is soon cut and utilized as fodder.

RIVER SYSTEM & WATER RESOURCES

Rivers

The district does not have any river of importance, owing to the elevated position at the centre of the watershed. There

ted, and nearly all of them have been utilized, though in many-cases the embankment is capable of much improvement. In the open parts of the district, where Col. Dixon made a large number of tanks, the embankments run a considerable distance from one rising ground to the other. The central portion of the dam arrests the flow of a drainage channel and the water spreads on each side to the rising ground. Every tank is provided with an escape to prevent the water topping the embankment during floods. These tanks are generally very shallow and seldom retain any water after the autumn harvest has been irrigated. Col. Dixon attempted at first, to form earthen embankments, but the soil was found so devoid of tenacity that the plan was abandoned early.

There are four kinds of embankments in the district. First, a wall of dry stone backed by an earthen embankment and faced with a coating of mortar, generally combined with a dry stone retaining wall; secondly, a masonry wall backed with earth, the masonry and embankment being of greater or less strength in proportion to the weight of water to be retained. Thirdly, an earthen embankment with or without a masonry core wall. Fourthly, a wall of masonry without any embankment. This last is the best and is adopted in the more hilly parts of the district where the gorges do not exceed 91.44 metres (100 yards) in width. Similar to these are the small masonry weirs thrown across the *nulla* in its course through the hills in order to ensure a supply to the wells on either bank.

As the slope of the land in every direction, is on the outer side, there is no permanent under-current of percolation to feed the supply in the wells. Both, the wells and the tanks are dependant upon the rainfall. In places, like Ajmer tahsil, where the beds of the *nullas* are sandy, sufficient amount of water is absorbed during the rains to supply the wells on either bank; but wells can only be profitably made within a short distance of the stream. Towards Beawar, the beds of the drainage channels are rocky and the slope of the country greater. Tanks are essential to catch the rainfall, which would otherwise flow off rapidly into Marwar and Mewar and not give the wells any chance of filling by percolation.

GEOLOGY

The geology of the district is that of the Aravalli range which extends throughout the district except the north-western part which is flat and plain, mostly covered by sand dunes. The rocks composing the Aravalli range are mica schists-injection gneisses of Aravalli age. Post-

Aravalli granites, felspathic schists and quartzite, calc-gneisses, hornblende schists, marble and quartzite of Delhi system and Erinpura granite with their pegmatites quartz veins. The whole area is much disturbed and shows very steep more or less vertical dips and these rocks are repeated several times in the section. It is the quartzite which is (Alwar series of Delhi system) the highest rock in the section within the range and forms the highest peaks above the general level of the range of which an example is the Taragarh near Ajmer. The best sections of the range in the district are exposed along the Ajmer-Nasirabad pass. The rocks exposed in the section are granites, felspathic-schists, calc-gneisses and quartzites.

Towards Beawar, gneiss and granite predominate, hardly any other rock being exposed. Quartzites in contact with a large pile of gneiss is the characteristic formation near Chang. Towards Ajmer, granite alternates with limestone, mica schists and felspathic quartzite. At Ajmer the section across the range, differs from the others in number and size of the ridges of the quartzite which cross it. Taragarh hill formed of the Alwar quartzite with intercalation of mica schists, rises to a height upwards of 1300 ft. above the level of the surrounding country and the same quartzite is repeated in the ridge east of Anasagar. To the east of Ajmer, the Alwar quartzite is reported five times in the section, the intervening low grounds being occupied by schists and limestone in which intrusive granite is of frequent occurrence. In the north of Ajmer, the range becomes very isolated and broken and near Sambhar lake it consists almost entirely of Alwar quartzite, repeated five or six times forming high, narrow, parallel, nearly vertical ridges miles apart; the intervening ground being covered by blown sand, under some of the ridges, a small thickness of the schist is exposed.

Coarse grained marble suited for the lime-burning and as a building stone is seen amidst the Delhi mica schist forming small ridges in plains south-west of Ajmer. Similar bands are found at Hatundi, Gadi Arjunpura, Kothaj, Naharpura and Minpura, Kesarpura and Makarera.

Pegmatites, which are seen intruding the mica schists, have been worked for beryl, mica and felspar near Baila, Danta, Hatundi, Chanda-devi and Madar.

The cultivated soil is a natural mixture of one-third stiff yellow loam and two-thirds sand consisting of disintegrated mica schist and felspar.

Earthquakes

The district has experienced very little earth tremors and as the old gazetteer puts it "but for the fact of their rarity they would be hardly worth mentioning."¹

Earthquakes reported as felt at Ajmer in the present century, are detailed below:

Station	Year	Month	Hours Mts. G.M.T.	Duration of shock in seconds	Intensity Rossi-Forrel scale
Ajmer	1905	April 4	00.50	120	4-5
Ajmer	1929	Jan. 7	01.35	1½	4
Ajmer	1934	Jan. 15	08.45	54	5-6
Ajmer	1938	March 14	00.45	(about) 10	5-6
Ajmer	1944	Oct. 29	15.05	5	5

FLORA

Owing to its geographical position and limited rainfall, the flora of Ajmer district is not rich. Indigenous species are limited and few of them are attractive in appearance. Several centuries of civilization have practically denuded the Ajmer hillsides of all timber. Beawar, which had impregnable jungle in 1819 has also been denuded of trees, except the reserve forest area. The district has no species peculiar to itself, every plant in it being found also either in the adjacent districts or in the dry regions of southern India.

Forest Belts

The forests are situated between 25° 40' and 26° 42' north latitude and 73° 55' and 75° 24' east longitude. The average length of the territory in which these forests lie, is approximately 144.84 km. (90 miles) from north-east to south-west and the average width is 16.09 km. (10 miles). The greater part of these forests are situated on the western chain of the Aravallis. A few blocks also lie on the eastern chain. The intervening plateaus carry little or no forest. The total area covered by the forests is 753.60 sq. km. (291 sq. miles).

Character of Forests and Type of Vegetation

The forest crop is mainly xerophytic species common to the more arid tracts of India. The district is completely outside the timber line

1. C. C. Watson : Rajputana District Gazetteer; Vol. I-A; Ajmer-Merwara; 1904; p. 8.

i.e. Teak, Sal and Sissoo Zone of the tropical and sub-tropical India. Such of these trees as do occur, rarely reach any appreciable size as the locality is unsuitable and the rainfall is hardly sufficient for anything more than a scrub jungle.

The poorest type of soil in the sand dunes is incapable of supporting even *Anogeissus pendula* forests. Here *Acacia rupestris* predominates associated with *Acacia leucophloea*, *Acacia jacquemonti*, *Zizyphus xylopyra* and *Z. jujuba*, *Celastrus senegalensis* and *Bauhinia racemosa* occur sporadically in the valleys in such areas.

The average height of trees in Ajmer and Beawar ranges which are more accessible and open to the rampant ravages of villagers, is about 4.57 metres to 6.00 metres (15 to 20 feet) and the diameter is around 64.51 mm. (2.54 inches). General improvement in growth is noticeable in the forests of Todgarh Range, particularly in the *nalas*, where the soil is deep and retentive of moisture, and where trees 12.19 to 15.24 metres (40-50 feet) are common.

The more important species of these forests are Dhokra (*Anogeissus pendula*), Kumpta (*Acacia rupestris*), Salar (*Boswellia serrata*), Khejri (*Prosopis spicigera*), Khair (*Acacia catechu*), Ber (*Zizyphus jujuba*), Jinja (*Bauhinia racemosa*), Koulassi (*Dichrostachys cineria*), Aranja (*Acacia leucophloea*), Gol (*Lannea grandis*), Tambolia (*Ehretia laevis*) and Sainjora (*Moringa concanensis*). The understorey chiefly consists of Thor (*Euphorbia nivulia*), Grangan (*Grewia populifolia*), Jharbor (*Zizyphus nummularia*), Dassen (*Rhus mysorensis*), Finangan (*Grewia pillosa*), Salepan (*Securinega obovata*), Arni (*Clerodendron phlomoides*), etc. Neem (*Azadirachta indica*), Semal (*Salmalia malabaricum*) and Pipal (*Ficus religiosa*) are also found. In the Todgarh range, however, Golia dhau (*Anogeissus latifolia*), Lambana (*Bridelia retusa*), Timbru (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), Umbia (*Saccopetalum tomentosum*), Ghatolan (*Randia dumetorum*), Kalia (*Albizia odoratissima*), Kar (*Sterculia urens*), Khirmi (*Wrightia tomentosa*), Kankaran (*Flacourtia sapida*), Bahera (*Terminalia bellerica*), Amaltas (*Cassia fistula*) and Bijasar (*Scymida febrifuga*) also occur. The incidence of these species increases as one proceeds towards the south.

The occurrence of these species vary according to topography. Thus, Ber, Aranja, Kakaira, Koulassi with an under-storey of *Grewias* occupy the flat ground at the foot of the hills. Dhokra and Kumpta occupy the middle slopes and lower ridges stretching down to the *nalas* below. The highest and steepest slopes carry almost pure Salar (*Boswel-*

lia serrata). If the ridge is precipitous, it is devoid of practically all growth, as exemplified by the Nagpahar Reserve.

The recently fixed sand dunes contain mostly *Acacia senegal* and *Acacia farnesiana*, *Zizyphus nummularia* and *Dichrostachys cineria*.

Bans (*Dendrocalamus strictus*) is found sporadically on the higher slopes as in Taragarh and Nagpahar reserves in Ajmer range. A few isolated clumps also occur in the Bagmal and Merian blocks in Todgarh range. Mature culms, however, rarely exceed a diameter of more than an inch or two with an average of about 25 stems to a clump.

The larger nalas are stocked liberally with Dhak (*Butea frondosa*), Keim (*Mitragyne parvifolia*) and Jamun (*Eugenia Jambolana*) with shrubs of Negad (*Vitex negundo*) and Jhaon (*Tamarix gallica*). There is also a sprinkling of Khajur (*Phoenix sylvestris*) in some nalas. The two following species are very characteristic especially of the Ajmer forests—

(1) *Kumpta*—It is a knotty, very hardy shrub or small tree (3.04-4.57 metres equal to 10-15 feet high and 1-2 feet girth). It is a tree peculiar to the arid and sub-arid regions of India, being common on the dry hills of Sindh and extending westwards over Arabia and the drier parts of Africa. It is common on rocky hills and sand drifts and is found on the worst soil. The wood is used for fuel, but decays rapidly so that it cannot be kept for any length of time.

(2) *Thor*—A succulent shrub often 4.57 metres (15 feet) high consisting of dense masses of green, round, fleshy stems, with whirled branches and spirally arranged spines. It forms a marked feature in the scanty vegetation of the rocky hills of Ajmer. In many places before protection commenced, this was the last remnant of the natural vegetation with the exception of a belt of Salar along the crest of the hills and a fringe of Dhokra and a few other trees in the valleys. When nothing else is available, the dry stems and branches of Thor are used for fuel, but it is not of much value and has generally been spared. It is very useful. However, so far as it shelters the seedlings of trees, particularly of Neem, which often germinate and grow up under its protection and which, if exposed, would be eaten by cattle. As the forest grows up this species disappears, very few being found in the Todgarh block.

In spite of systematic working and protection of these forests for more than half century, the crop in Ajmer and Beawar range is yet irregular, particularly in the forests in the vicinity of villages. But in spite

of heavy grazing, natural regeneration of Kumpta (*Acacia rupestris*) and Dhokra (*Anogeissus pendula*) is taking place, though, of latter, only in the belts where the soil is deep. Only the rocky and sunbaked areas are devoid of dense vegetation but there too Anwal (*Cassia auriculata*) and Thor (*Euphorbia nivulia*) bushes give hope of succession of better species. The coppice in the areas felled under the last working plan, are generally well stocked and at some places e.g. Rajgarh and Nagpahar, they are in impenetrable scrub.

In Todgarh forest range, the crop is vigorous and well stocked. Here the forests lose the scrubby appearance and large trees are common. Due to their remoteness, these forests have escaped the heavy denudation from the hands of villagers. Lighter incidence of grazing and better soil conditions are the other important factors responsible for the excellent Dhokra crop here. Seedling regeneration though not noticeable in its early stages, is excellent at some and good at most places. The forest had spread even to the areas set aside as Guars e.g. Sarupan in Bagmal reserve where grazing is allowed throughout the year, and has adversely affected the grass crop.

The most common grasses belong to *Aristida* species, but better grasses like *Cenchrus ciliaris*, *Schima matvosus*, *Dichanthium annulatum*, *Chloris barbata*, *Chrysopason montanus*, *Eremonopogon foveolatus* grow up in the tracts closed to grazing. Owing to heavy incidence of sheep grazing, particularly in more or less bare hills, the fertility of the soil is maintained remarkably well and with closure to grazing a profuse crop of *Indigogera pulchella* comes up alongwith grasses.

In order to increase the forest area in pursuance of the National Forest Policy of India, new areas were taken up and declared Reserved Forests in the year 1950-52. As most of these areas were deforested in the past and consisted of naked hills bare of any vegetation, afforestation was a necessity. Accordingly, 1741 hectares (4,300 acres) of plantations were created in the Second Five Year Plan period.

Forests play a very important part in the economy of the district. They protect the soil in the hills and prevent it from being washed down to the agricultural fields. They preserve the moisture and keep the water level in the plains high. They also keep the climate moderate. They meet the requirements of villagers in respect of agricultural implements, timber for their hutments and provide grazing. They are practically the only source of supply of fuel wood to the towns of Ajmer, Beawar, Nasirabad and Kishangarh. These forests produce mostly firewood and a little timber in the form of dandas.

Legal Position of the Forests

The erstwhile districts of Ajmer and Merwara were ceded to the East India Company by the Marathas, under the treaty of the 25th June, 1818. The waste lands and hills in the Government villages thus became the property of the State and the people had no rights in them.

At the settlement in 1850 Col. Dixon included the waste in the *shamlat*, or common land of the villages but at the same time, the villagers on their part, bound themselves to plant trees and to preserve the jungle to a reasonable extent. This engagement they never attempted to keep. The result was that these lands gradually became denuded; in dry seasons they failed to afford sufficient pasture for the cattle; wood was getting scarce, the water supply in wells and streams became uncertain; the smaller tanks silted up at an alarming rate and in many cases, the bunds were breached by sudden floods rushing down the bare hill-sides. Many of the numerous tanks constructed by Colonel Dixon, had become useless or had had their usefulness much impaired. In 1871, Sir Dietrich Brandis inspected the waste lands of those areas and in accordance with his suggestions, it was decided to acquire certain areas on the hills of those districts and to improve them by protection and planting. In the new settlement of 1870 attempts were made to secure the control of certain tracts of hill and waste. As, however, it was found impossible to obtain the consent of the people to the arrangements proposed by the Settlement Officer, it was decided to have recourse to legislation and accordingly, in 1874 the Ajmer Forest Regulation was passed.

This empowered Government to take up any hilly or waste land for the purpose of forming State Forests, certain rights in such lands being secured to the villagers. The Ajmer Forest Regulation is four years older than the Indian Forest Act and is said to be the first forest regulation of its kind in India.

The operations had already been commenced in March 1872 by posting two Forest Officers in Ajmer and by the establishment of plantations on certain lands which were at the disposal of Government and by the protection, as a preliminary measure, of some of the tracts which it had been determined to take up as State Forests. In accordance with the provisions of the Regulation, a number of tracts were taken up from time to time and declared State Forest. In June 1875, a set of Forest bye-laws was drawn up under the Regulation and published for general information. By its provisions, the cutting of wood, carrying of fire, grazing of cattle in the reserves, etc., except under certain conditions, were declared to be Forest offences.

In 1892, the Private Forests Preservation Regulation was also enacted on the lines of the Indian Forest Act for the formation of protected forests but this remained a dead letter.¹

As the district now forms part of Rajasthan, the Rajasthan Forest Act, 1953 has been made applicable to it.

History of Management

The first regular plan for Ajmer Reserved Forests was prepared by Mr. E. M. Coventry in 1893, who was specially deputed for the work from Hyderabad. This plan was for 89,779 acres in two working circles. In 1896, Part II of the Coventry Plan was rewritten by Mr. Fernandez and Mr. Har Swaroop. Four working circles were formed, viz., Ajmer, Beawar, North Todgarh and South Todgarh. The plan was prepared for a period of 20 years and aimed at an annual surplus of Rs. 2,000 with a possible rise to Rs. 5,000.

The Fernandez and Har Swaroop Plan was revised by Mr. B.R. Wood in 1916. This plan applied to 90,789 acres in 27 blocks distributed over three working circles. The average annual forecast in the plan was Rs. 8,600. This plan was a landmark in the development of Ajmer forests. Fellings were carried out intensively and accurately and there was marked improvement in growth.

Mr. Wood's plan was revised in 1936 by Mr. W. F. Coomb, for an area which had now risen to 91,145 acres and formed two working circles, viz., the (1) Coppice with standards working circle and (2) Grazing working circle.

On April 1, 1938 after retrocession of parts (area 44,460 acres) of Merwara to Jodhpur and Udaipur revision became necessary. In 1940, it was decided to rewrite the plan and the work was entrusted to Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan. His final draft was sanctioned in 1942. The rewritten plan made no important changes in the prescriptions of Coombs' plan. The financial forecast was reduced to Rs. 11,000 from Rs. 16,000 per year.

The current plan was prepared by Mr. D. C. Kaith and Mr. D. P. Nagdev in 1954 for the period 1955-56 to 1974-75. There are three

1. All orders declaring reserved forests were consolidated and published vide the Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 1076-C/162-A/38 of August 11, 1940 and corrected vide Notifications No. 1001/162-A/38 of May 19, 1941 and No. C/1/311 52-Rev. of April 4, 1952.

working circles, viz., the coppice with standard working circle, general working circle and the bamboo overlapping circle. The plan forecasts an estimated surplus of Rs. 22,600.

The following table gives figures for forest revenue and expenditure from a decade before the first working plan was prepared:—

Year of period	Revenue	Expenditure	(In rupees)	
			Surplus	Deficit
1882-83	12,562	15,648		3,086
Average of 1882-83 to 1891-92	12,127	15,337		3,210
1893-94 to 1895-96	14,203	15,652		1,449
1896-97 to 1915-16	19,641	17,063	2,578	
1916-17 to 1935-36	63,849	46,666	17,183	
1936-37 to 1937-38 (before retrocession)	84,788	64,747	20,041 (excludes average of Rs. 5,420 distributed as profits).	
1938-39	54,260	47,870	6,390	
1939-40	43,489	42,512	977	
1940-41	49,238	43,700	5,538	
1941-42	49,480	46,599	2,881	
1942-43	88,453	55,716	32,737	
1943-44	1,37,982	70,466	67,516	
1944-45	1,60,399	84,760	75,639	
1945-46	1,90,924	97,106	93,818	
			666*	
1946-47	1,96,486	1,18,191	78,295	
			1,46,430*	
1947-48	2,12,781	1,24,568	88,213	
1948-49	2,30,233	1,45,476	84,757	

(In rupees)

Year of period	Revenue	Expenditure	Surplus	Deficit
1949-50	2,14,013	1,24,292	89,721	
1950-51	1,68,761	92,650	76,111	
1951-52	2,67,085	81,827	1,85,258	
			2,23,827*	
1952-53	1,42,031	79,396	62,635	
1953-54	1,65,594	2,49,846	—	
1954-55	2,09,557	2,36,775	—	
1955-56	1,78,026	3,07,742	—	
1956-57	1,87,552	2,23,243	—	
1957-58	1,43,237	2,80,243	—	
1958-59	2,21,762	5,19,209	—	
1959-60	2,25,626	4,97,751	—	
1960-61	3,30,815	6,76,926	—	

FAUNA

There is little cover for large game. An occasional tiger is to be met with in the Beawar forests while leopards and hyenas are found in the hills of Nagpahar to Dawair. Wolves are rare. Wild pigs are found in most of the former *istimrari* estates. They are preserved by the Thakurs as pig shooting is a favourite sport of Rajputs. A tent club was long ago revived at Nasirabad but the pig love the shelter of the hills and the country is broken and hard to ride. Black buck (*antelope bezoartica*), ravine deer (*gazella bennettii*) and nilgai (*portax pictus*) are met with. A few sambhar (*rura aristotelis*) are to be found in the hills. Rewards were given for the destruction of wild animals at the time the old gazetteer was written, the rates prevalent at the time being Rs. 7/- for a tiger, Rs. 5/- for a leopard, Rs. 3/- for bear, hyena or wolf; and two annas for a snake. The reward for snakes was increased to six annas during the two months immediately preceding the breeding season, i.e., May and June.

There is no such reward giving scheme in force now. On the con-

* Excludes amount of profit distribution. Figures till 1952-53 are taken from the working plan of old Reserved Forests of State of Ajmer by D. C. Kaith & D. P. Nagdev, p. 54-55.

Cloudiness

During the south-west monsoon season, skies are moderately to heavily clouded generally and overcast on some days. In the rest of the year clear or lightly clouded skies prevail. But on a few days in the winter season, skies become cloudy when the district is affected by passing western disturbances.

Winds

Winds are generally light to moderate but in summer and the early south-west monsoon season, winds may strengthen on some days. Westerly to south-westerly winds prevail in the south-west monsoon season. In the post monsoon and winter months winds are mostly from directions between west and north with a large percentage of calms. In the summer season the winds blow from directions between south-west and north-west.

Special Weather Phenomena

Depressions which originate in the Bay of Bengal and move across the central parts of the country in the south-west monsoon season affect the district during the last stages causing widespread heavy rainfall. Thunderstorms occur practically in all the months of the year but they are more frequent during the period May to September. In the hot season dust storms also occur.

Tables 3, 4 and 5 give the temperature and the humidity, mean wind speed and the frequency of special weather phenomena respectively for Ajmer.

TABLE 1
Normals and extremes of Rainfall

Station	No. of years of data	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal & year **	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal & year **	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*	
																	Amount (mm.)	Date
Ajmer	50 a	9.7	6.9	6.1	3.3	16.0	59.4	159.0	168.7	72.9	9.4	3.3	5.3	520.0	235 (1917)	29 (1918)	164.6	1928 Aug. 31
	b	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.4	1.4	3.3	8.8	9.1	4.1	0.7	0.4	0.4	31.0				
Sawar	50 a	3.3	3.8	4.6	2.0	7.9	38.1	192.3	185.2	77.7	11.4	3.1	2.5	531.9	192 (1908)	33 (1948)	330.2	1896 Jul. 1
	b	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.8	2.4	7.7	7.4	3.1	0.5	0.2	0.2	23.6				
Kekri	50 a	4.6	4.8	4.8	2.3	9.1	58.4	212.6	208.3	84.6	11.2	3.1	3.3	607.1	212 (1917)	31 (1918)	313.7	1931 Jul. 18
	b	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.9	3.1	9.4	9.1	4.1	0.5	0.3	0.3	29.6				
Pisangan	50 a	4.3	3.8	2.3	1.3	10.9	38.1	123.9	145.3	59.7	5.6	1.5	1.8	398.5	312 (1917)	21 (1939)	177.8	1917 Jun. 17
	b	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.8	1.8	5.7	6.2	2.5	0.4	0.1	0.2	18.8				
Goela	50 a	4.8	4.6	4.1	2.0	5.3	43.2	145.0	151.1	73.1	12.7	2.5	3.3	451.7	280 (1917)	32 (1918)	190.5	1911 Sep. 12
	b	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.7	2.5	7.0	7.4	3.0	0.6	0.2	0.3	23.2				
Beawar	50 a	5.6	6.1	4.6	2.8	12.5	61.2	147.1	144.0	69.1	9.4	2.3	3.8	468.5	248 (1917)	26 (1918)	292.1	1908 Sep. 2
	b	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.3	1.1	3.1	7.7	7.5	3.7	0.6	0.2	0.4	26.3				
Jawaja	50 a	5.3	5.3	3.8	2.0	10.4	45.5	151.9	154.7	64.0	10.7	1.3	2.0	456.9	254 (1917)	13 (1919)	221.0	1932 Aug. 8
	b	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.8	2.4	7.1	7.0	3.2	0.6	0.1	0.3	22.9				
Todgarh	50 a	5.3	6.3	3.1	5.3	12.2	51.3	176.8	213.1	101.9	11.4	3.1	2.3	592.1	268 (1917)	25 (1918)	328.9	1942 Jul. 30
	b	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.3	1.0	3.0	8.6	9.1	4.2	0.7	0.2	0.2	29.0				

Station	No. of years of data	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal & year **	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal & year **	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*	
		Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Amount	Date	(mm.)
Deoli ¹	49 a	6.9	3.8	5.6	3.1	8.6	62.5	246.6	261.6	95.0	18.0	4.1	3.3	719.1	203	21	413.8	1908 Sep. 1
	b	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.3	1.1	3.8	10.1	10.3	4.5	0.7	0.3	0.3	33.0	(1908)	(1905)		
Bhinai	24 a	3.1	4.8	5.8	2.3	6.6	53.3	172.5	149.1	69.3	9.4	2.8	4.1	483.1	216	07	218.4	1917 Jun. 17
	b	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.7	2.6	7.7	8.0	3.3	0.5	0.2	0.5	24.9	(1917)	(1918)		
Harmara	24 a	6.1	3.8	3.8	3.8	10.2	38.3	114.8	113.8	61.0	6.1	3.3	6.9	371.9	256	19	148.3	1897 Jul. 22
	b	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	1.2	2.1	6.5	6.0	3.0	0.5	0.2	0.3	22.2	(1917)	(1905)		
Masuda	24 a	3.6	7.6	3.6	3.8	9.9	42.4	136.1	115.3	49.8	7.1	3.3	5.3	387.8	243	29	190.5	1917 Jun. 17
	b	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.4	1.0	2.4	9.1	6.8	2.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	22.6	(1917)	(1905)		
Jassakhara	24 a	2.0	7.1	1.8	2.8	12.5	50.3	148.6	126.7	74.9	8.1	3.3	3.1	441.2	255	17	188.7	1908 Jul. 8
	b	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.3	1.0	3.2	6.9	6.2	3.9	0.7	0.1	0.3	23.7	(1917)	(1919)		
Nasirabad	17 a	6.1	9.1	7.1	4.6	17.3	56.9	140.2	152.7	69.6	10.4	2.0	9.9	485.9	179	24	143.5	1909 Jul. 14
	b	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.5	1.5	2.9	8.3	8.6	4.2	0.8	0.3	0.4	29.5	(1917)	(1904)		
Ajmer	a	5.1	5.6	4.4	3.0	10.7	49.9	162.0	163.5	73.0	10.1	2.8	4.1	494.2	232	27		
(Dist.)	b	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.3	1.0	2.8	7.8	7.8	3.5	0.6	0.2	0.3	25.9	(1917)	(1918)		

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

* Based on all available data upto 1957.

** Years given in brackets.

1. Deoli has now been transferred to Tonk District.

TABLE 2
Frequency of Annual Rainfall in the District
(Data 1901-1950)

Range in mm	No. of years	Range in mm	No. of years
101-200	2	701-800	6
201-300	6	801-900	1
301-400	7	901-1000	0
401-500	10	1001-1100	0
501-600	9	1101-1200	1
601-700	8	1201-1300	0



English Name	Scientific Name	Hindi/local Name
11. The Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinera</i>	Bagla
12. The Indian Pond Heron or Paddy Bird	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	
13. The Hoopoe	<i>Upapa upops</i>	Hudhud
14. The Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Kaikil
15. The Common Mayna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Maina
16. The Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psitacula leramerii</i>	Tota
17. The Large Indian Parakeet	<i>Psitacula eupatria</i>	Tota
18. The Black Partridge	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>	Kala Titar
19. The Grey Partridge	<i>Francolinus frondicerianus</i>	Titar
20. The Peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	Mor
21. The Blue Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Kabutar
22. The Jungle Bush Quail	<i>Perdicula asiatica</i>	Bater
23. The Common Quail	<i>Coturix coturnix</i>	Bater
24. The Common Indian Quail	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>	Bater
25. The Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i>	Ulloo
26. The Spotted Owlet	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	
27. The House Sparrow	<i>Athene brama</i>	Goraiya
28. The White-backed Vulture	<i>Pseudogys bengalensis</i>	Gidh
29. The Common Pariah Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Chil
30. The Great Indian Bustard	<i>Choriatus nigricept</i>	

REPTILES

Scientific Names

LIZARDS

1. *Calotes versicolor*
2. *Hemidactylus flaviveridis*
3. *Chameleo zeylanicus*
4. *Varanus monitor*
5. *Lygosoma indicum*

CROCODILES

1. *Crocodilus porosus*

“Maharaja, after entering the jungles of Sindh and after crossing the small rivers in the way, you should bathe in Pushkar.”

Coming to the period of Nandas and Mauryas, we learn that the onslaughts of Alexander pushed the Malava tribe from the upper Panjab to Rajputana and the migration probably continued down to the Scythian conquest of that country. In course of time, they occupied the area around Jaipur and Tonk as is evident from the location of their capital—Malavanagara—identified with modern Nagar or Karkotanagar, about 25 miles to the south-south-east of Tonk and about 45 miles to the north-north-east of Bundi.¹ They appear to have formed an independent republic about the end of 1st century A.D. and came in clash with their neighbours, the Uttamabhadras of Ajmer-Pushkar region and the Kshaharata—Sakas of western India. That the Ajmer region was brought under the rule of Nahapana is corroborated by the inscriptions of Rishabhadatta (Ushavadatta), son-in-law of Nahapana. “In one of the Nasik cave inscriptions, Rishabhadatta is said to have gone, at the command of the Bhattaraka, to relieve the chief of the Uttamabhadra tribe who was besieged by the Malayas (Malavas, settled in the Jaipur region of Rajputana). After inflicting a crushing defeat on the Malayas, the Saka chief is said to have gone to Pushkara lake for ceremonial consecration. It is not known whether the word *bhattaraka* (lord) indicates the Satrap Nahapana or his Kushana overlord. But whichever interpretation is accepted, it cannot be denied that the Ajmer region in Rajputana lay within the sphere of Nahapana’s influence.”²

The Brahmi inscription from Barli, mentioned above is assignable to the 4th century B.C. on the basis of its pre-Asokan script comparable to the one used in Sohagpura and Piprawa epigraphs. As the inscription is fragmentary, the first line of the inscription refers—“To the Lord (Maha) Vira (the Jaina Tirthankara), the 2nd line mentions—in the year 84: eighty four, the 3rd line appears to mention: Sali Malini—a proper name, probably the name of the donor, a lady and the 4th line indicates the foundation of the object of the inscription at Majhimika or Madhyamika. As it is possible that the place name may be referring to the donor, we may surmise that during that period Barli was a seat of Jaina culture. This assumption is supported by a traditional story which tells us that a Jaina ruler, Padam Sena founded a town at the

1. The History and Culture of the Indian People Vol. II—The Age of Imperial Unity p. 164.

2. *ibid* p. 181.

foot of the Taragadh Hill, commonly called Inderkot, now surviving as a locality of the city of Ajmer. Raja Padam Sena's city was Padmavati Nagari, which, according to tradition, contained a lac of rupees. The city is reported to have extended to the places where now stand the villages Surajkund, Galti, Banoli, and Kishnapura. The rivers Nanda, Parachi and Saraswati supplied waters to the city and added to its beauty. The place was called '*Kokan tirtha*' during those days. It prospered for a long time before being swept off by the river.

When Buddhism was on its rise, Pushkar is reported to have grown as a centre of Buddhist faith like Varanasi, Mathura and Gaya. Its decline began with the decline of Buddhism.

The discovery of earliest Indian Punchmarked coins at Pushkar also goes to prove that this town was flourishing in the 4th century B.C. This numismatic evidence supports the dating of the Barli inscription and justifies the assumption that Barli was another flourishing town during this period. Epigraphs discovered in other parts of India also show that Pushkar flourished as a centre of Buddhist faith and that it was considered as sacred by the Buddhists as by those of Brahminical faith. Four stone inscriptions,¹ belonging to the 2nd century B.C. in the Buddhist stupa at Sanchi in Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), mention the charitable donations made by Bhikshus Arhadina, Nagarakhita, Arya Buddharakhita, Himagiri Pusak and Isidata (woman), all inhabitants of Pushkar. These inscriptions inform us that in the 2nd century B.C. Pushkar was a holy place and also a populous town.

On the basis of a reference available in a manuscript form giving an account of Ajmer and Jodhpur, by one Ghulam Qadir (written about 1830 A.D.), we know as follows:—

'At Pokhur (in other words Pushkar) near the Khut Mandir, is a stone with Sanskrit inscription, of which the following is a translation.' "In the year V.S. 106 (corresponding to 49 A.D.), on the 12th day of

1. These inscriptions are: (i) Sanchi Stupa Inscription No. 294 (Ep. Indica, Vol. II p. 387).

"The gift of Isidata (Risidata), the wife of Leva from Pokhara (Pushkar)".

(ii) *ibid* No. 297. "The gift from SANSHARAKHITA from Pokhara (Ep. Indica, Vol. II, p. 388).

(iii) Sanchi Stupa Inscription, Topp II, No. 30 "The gift of venerable Buddharakhita inhabitants of Pokhara. (Ep. Indica, Vol. II, P. 398).

(iv) *ibid* Topp II, No. 42 "The gift of Aga (Arga) inhabitant of Pokhar" (Ep. Indica Vol. II, p. 398).

obverse of a coin of Vasudeva, the founder of the Sakambari Chauhans. The Bijolia inscription of 1169 A.D. also supports this theory.

The theory of the priestly origin has also been forcefully supported by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma. In his opinion, Chauhans were originally Brahmins, as Bijolia inscription clearly states (विप्रः श्री वत्स गोत्रे भूतः) regarding their origin and this is supported by Kyam Khan Raso, by Sundha inscription (1262 A.D.) of the Chauhans of Jalore and by Achaleshwar inscription of the Chauhans of Chandravati.

The coin used by Dr. Bhandarkar is not only the earliest available evidence, it also records two familiar and significant names, viz., of Vasudeva, the first historical person in the Chauhan genealogy and Sapadalaksha. It is not easy to ignore this evidence and though reading of Vahman as Chauhan may not be correct, we may tentatively agree with Bhandarkar to the extent that the ancestors of the Chauhans were foreigners conversant with Sassanian-Pahlavi and Devanagari scripts, held sway in Multan and had links with Zabulistan and Sapadalaksha. They probably belonged to some priestly class and though were not merged with the Brahmins in the first half of the 7th century A.D., a few generations later, they were accepted as belonging to the Vatsa gotra of the Brahmins.

The Harsha stone inscription of 973 A.D.,¹ which is the earliest one of this dynasty, carries back their genealogy for six generations up to Guvak I who was a feudatory of the Pratihara emperor Nag Bhatta II (815 A.D.) The Bijolia rock inscription gives the names of the 27 predecessors of Someshvara.

Vasudeva

Vasudeva is the first historical person in the Chauhan genealogy. The *Prabandhakosha* puts him in 551 A.D. but the date is not corroborated by any other work. He carved out a principality in Sambhar region. In the third and fourth sargas of the *Prithviraj Vijaya*, he is said to have been blessed by the goddesses Sakambari and Asapuri.

Samantraj

Samantraj comes next in the genealogy. The Bijolia list describes him a Brahmin of Ananta, born in Vatsa gotra at Ahichatrapur. He is 12th king if counted backward from Vighraharaj II (973 A.D.) Dr. H. C.

1. *Epigraphia Indica* Vol. II, pp. 116-30.

Ray assigns him the period about the middle of the seventh century A.D.¹

The four rulers after Samantraj namely, Jayaraj, Vighararaj I, Chandraraj I and Gopendra were of little consequence.

Durlabhraj I

Durlabhraj I was son of Gopendra. Prithviraj Vijaya tells us that he bathed his sword at the confluence of the Ganga and the ocean and enjoyed Gauda land. If the verse preserves a correct tradition, it seems that Durlabhraj, like his son Guvak I, who was a feudatory to Nagabhata, served the Gurjara Pratihar emperor who can be no other than Nagabhata's father Vatsraj. The Radhanpur plates credit Vatsaraj for appropriating the fortune of Gauda kingdom. The defeat of the Bengal king at the hands of Vatsaraj though doubted by R. C. Mazumdar,² is not improbable specially when he had overrun Madhyadesha. This must have happened before 793 A.D., the approximate date of the death of Dhruva Rashtrakuta.

Durlabhraj I was succeeded by Govindaraja or Guvak I who attained eminence in the court of Nagabhata II (c. 815 A.D.). Guvak I was one of the feudatories who had helped Nagabhata II against the Palas.³ He seems to have built the temple of Harshnath, the family deity of the Chauhans of Sakambari.

Guvak I was succeeded by Chandraraj II, Guvak II, Chandanraj and Vakpatiraj I. We learn that Guvak II of Sakambari who was also a vassal of Pratihara Bhoja, had yielded along with Kalachuri Sankaragana (of Sarayupura in Uttar Pradesh) and the Guhila Harsharaja (of Dhavagarta, i.e. Dhod in Mewar) to the forces of Kokkalla I, the Kalachuri king (about A.D. 845). Kokalla I is said to have carried away their treasures and granted Bhoja and his feudatories, 'freedom from fear' which probably meant an assurance that he would not lead any more aggressive campaign against their territories.⁴

About this time the Pratihar empire had extended from Kathiawad to West Bengal. The Tomars of Delhi, Chauhans of Sakambari,

1. *Dynastic History of Northern India* Vol. II, p. 1061.

2. *History of Bengal* by R. C. Majumdar, Vol. I, p. 103.

3. *The History and Culture of the Indian People* Vol. IV—The Age of Imperial Kanauj, p. 27.

4. *The History and Culture of the Indian People* Vol. IV—The Age of Imperial Kanauj, p. 26.

Chalukyas of Anhilpataka, and Guhilots of Medapata, fell in the orbit of the Gurjara-Pratihars. The empire was waiting dismemberment owing to constant invasions at the hands of Rashtrakutas who would have acquired supreme power but for the premature death of king Krishna III (940-56 A.D.). The collapse of Pratihars and Rathores resulted in the rise of Chauhans of Sakambari, Chalukyas of Gujarat and Parmaras of Malwa.

The epigraphic records show that the Chauhans of Sakambari came in open clash with the Tomars of Delhi in the beginning of tenth century and "in the closing years of the tenth century, the Kingdom of the Chahamanas of Sakambhari extended at least up to Sikar on the north, the town of Jaipur on the east, Pushkar near Ajmer on the south, and Parbatsar, in Jodhpur, on the west."¹

Chandanraj, the son and successor of Guvak II slew the Tomar king Rudra. Harsha inscription informs that Vakpatiraj, son of Chandanraj, defeated Tantrapal who was "coming haughtily towards the Anant country" to deliver a message of his overlord.² The overlord was probably Pratihara emperor Mahipal I (c. 914-31 A.D.) or one of his immediate successors. Vakpatiraj is also credited for achieving 188 victories and extended southern boundaries of kingdom up to Narbada.

Simharaj

Vakpatiraj was succeeded by his son Simharaj while his second son established himself at Nadol. Simharaj had the epithet of Maharajadhiraj. We learn that he scattered the army of Tomar Nayak Salavana and his allies and brought him a captive to Ajmer. Consequently, the Tomar overlord "the Raghukul Chakravartin" had to come personally to procure his release.

Hammir Mahakavya throws more light on Simharaj. We are told that he constantly fought against the Muslims and once routed the army of Sultan Hajiuddin which had penetrated into Jethana, 25 miles from Ajmer. He earned the epithet of king seizer and defeated Nasir-ud-din who is identified by Harbilas Sarda as Subuktgin. It is further stated in *Hammir Mahakavya* that the kings of Karnat, Lata, Chola, Gujarat and Banga feared him and the first two sought his favour.

About his end, Dr. Dasharatha Sharma writes, "probably he (Simharaj) ultimately succumbed to a strong combination of his numerous enemies among whom might perhaps be included also the incensed

1. The History and Culture of the Indian People Vol. IV—The Age of Imperial Kanauj, p. 107.

2. Indian Antiquary, 1913 pp. 58-62.

Pratiharas of Kanauj.”¹ The basis of his views is that the Harsha stone credits Simharaj’s son Vighraharaj for “rescuing fortunes of his family and the Goddess of victory from the distress that had befallen them.”

Vighraharaj II

Simharaj was succeeded by his son Vighraharaj II. By this time the Chauhans of Sakambari had thrown off the allegiance of Gurjara-Pratiharas. The political supremacy in Northern India had passed from Gurjara-Pratiharas to Dhanga (954-1008 A.D.) of the Chandela dynasty.

At this time Chalukya Mulraj was anxious to expand the newly founded principality of Anhilpataka and he came in clash with his neighbours in the north. Vighraharaj attacked Mulraj perhaps with the army of Tailap (ruler of Lata) or when Mulraj was busy against Tailap. Mulraj fled and took shelter in Kantha durga, the modern Kanthakot in eastern Vagad division of Kachhi. Vighraharaj carried his arms up to Bhargukachchha where he built a temple of Asapuri.² *Hammir Mahakavya* mentions that Vighraharaj killed Mulraj II. However, the Gujarat chronicles inform that Vighraharaj returned pleased by the boldness of Mulraj who personally came in his camp and told him that it was improper on his part to have attacked while the Chalukyas were busy against Barappa.³ Probably, as Dr. H. C. Ray suggests, the Chalukya king was really defeated but on his submission the Chauhan prince did not press his demands.

Vighraharaj enjoyed great prestige as a campaigner as his title *Khurarajondhakara* indicates. Ferishta states that the rajas of Delhi, Ajmer⁴, Kalinjara and many other neighbouring countries supplied contingents to help the Shahi king Jayapala against Subuktgin in 997 A.D. Dr. Dasharatha Sharma, however, remarks that if Ferishta is believed, it would lead that Vighraharaja II fought against Subuktgin but the use of the words ‘Ray of Ajmer’ by Ferishta creates suspicion about the veracity of his statement because Ajmer had not till then come into existence. Moreover, this is not corroborated by earlier and more reliable historians such as Utbi, Ibn-ul-Athar and Nizamuddin. Hence Dr. Dasharatha Sharma concludes, “We are more than doubtful regarding the accuracy of Ferishta’s statement.”⁵ H. B. Sarda’s view that

1. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 29.

2. *Prabandha Chintamani-Merutunga* (Singhi Jain Granthmala) p. 15-16.

3. *ibid* pp. 24-25.

4. *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. V—The Struggle for Empire, p. 4.

5. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 32.

the beginning the Chauhan kingdom comprised one hundred and twenty five thousand towns and villages and that it included the whole of eastern and southern Rajputana, a great part of Marwar and extended beyond Bhatner on the north¹ cannot be accepted in toto because another collateral branch of Chauhans was ruling as an independent power at Nadulla and Guhilots at Medapata.

Vigraharaja was succeeded by his younger brother Durlabharaj II. The Kinsariya stone inscription dated V.S. 1056 informs that he was called Durlanghya-meru for none could violate his orders. He also reduced Mahendra Chauhan of Nadulla.

Durlabhraj II was succeeded by his son Govindraj III, also known as Gandu,² whom *Prithviraj Vijaya* gives the title *vairigharatta* or the grinder of enemies. He is said to have defeated a Muslim army, probably a detachment of Mahmud of Ghazani.

Vakpatiraj II, son and successor of Govindraj, was a contemporary of Parmar raja Bhoj (1010-55 A.D.) of Malwa and that of Chalukya Bhim Deo (1022-64 A.D.) of Anhilpataka. Amidst such powerful contemporaries Chauhans of Sapadalaksha could not make a headway.

Vakpati II was followed by his son Viryaram who was killed in a war against Bhojadco of Malwa and was succeeded by his younger brother Chamundaraj. It appears that with the assistance of Nadulla, he was able to free Sakambari from the Parmara control. Chamundaraj was succeeded by Durlabhraj III (Dusal of Bijolia inscription) who is said to have defeated a Muslim army under Shahabuddin. He was killed fighting the Matangas or Mlechhas.³

Durlabhraj III was succeeded by his son Vigraharaj III who appears to be identical with Vishala of Bijolia inscription. He probably married the daughter of Bhoja's brother Udayaditya. The relations between Sapadalaksha and Dhar were cordial at this time. *Prithviraj Vijaya* mentions that Vigraharaj gave to Parmara Udiyaditya (1059-87 A.D.) of

1. Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda, p. 141.

2. Early Chauhan Dynasties by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma, p. 34. However another source alludes that Govindaraja II and not Govindaraja III, was the son and successor of Durlabharaja II. The same source mentions that Govindaraja II seems to have come into clash with Mahmud of Ghazni, but did not suffer much. (The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. V The Struggle for Empire p. 81). Ferishta states that Mahmud came Somnath by way of Ajmer (Sambhar)—ibid p. 23, f. n. 13.

3. *Prithviraj Vijayn of Jayanak* by G. H. Ojha and Guleri v. 70

Malwa, a horse named Sarang with which he defeated Chalukya Karna (1064-94).¹

Prithviraj I succeeded Vighraharaj III. Prithviraj Vijaya credits him for having defeated and killed a body of 700 Chalukyas who had come to plunder Pushkar. *Prabandhkosh* also mentions his fight against the Muslims who were perhaps sent by Masud III (1099-1115).² By some he has been called *Paramabhattacharaka-Maharajadhiraj Parmeshwara*, which indicated that he was a sovereign of considerable power.

Ajayaraj

Prithviraj was succeeded by Ajayaraj. He defeated Naravarman of Malwa on the borders of Avanti and captured his dandanayaka Sollana after slaying Chachchiga, Sindhula and Yashoraj who were perhaps high military officials posted in the fort of Shrimaigga.³ An inscription found in Adhai-din-ka-jhompra states that Ajayaraja conquered country upto Ujjain.⁴ He also won a victory over the Garjana Matangas "which term must mean the Ghaznavides, if on the authority of Prithviraj Vijaya itself, we equate Garjana with Ghazana."⁵ We learn from *Tarikh-i-Firishta* that Muhammad Bahbmi, who had been sent by Bahram to look after the Ghaznavide conquest in India, had captured Nagor and as *Prabhavakacharit* describes it to be under Ajayaraj upto 1121 A.D., it seems certain that the Chauhan ruler had come in clash with the Ghaznavides.

Dr. Dasharatha Sharma is inclined to give credit to Ajayaraj for founding the city of Ajmer sometime before V.S. 1170. Shri H. B. Sarda held the view that he only made additions to the town founded by Ajayapal in sixth century. However, there is no mention of Ajmer in epigraphic and literary sources before Ajayaraj's time. It appears that there might have existed a tiny and insignificant settlement since the time of Ajayapal to which Ajayaraj made important and extensive additions.

The silver and copper coins of Ajayaraj bear effigy of a seated goddess, though some of these also bear the name of his queen Somala devi on the obverse.

1 Prithviraj Vijaya of Jayanak by G. H. Ojha and Guleri, vs. 76-78

2. *Prabandhkosh* genealogy (Singhi Jain Granthmala) p. 133.

3 Bijolia inscription v. 15, Early Chauhan Dynasties p. 39.

4. *Dynastic History of Northern India* Vol. II by H. C. Ray p. 1071.

5. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 40.

He is said to have abdicated in favour of his son Arnoraj, renounced the world and passed the remaining years in the forest near Pushkar.

Arnoraj

Arnoraj who ascended¹ the throne a little before V.S. 1190 (1133 A.D.), has been glorified by the titles such as *Maharajadhiraj Parmeshwara* and *Paramabhattacharaka Maharajadhiraj Shrimad Arnorajdeva*. Early in his reign, Arnoraj inflicted a crushing defeat upon the Turuskas who, had come upto Pushkar. The long march through the desert had exhausted the invaders and they were so thoroughly beaten that according to a Chauhan *Prashasti*, the land of Ajmer was soaked with their blood. On the plain where the battle was fought, Arnoraj constructed Anasagar lake and filled it with river Chandra, identified by H. C. Ray with Luni which "takes its rise in the Sambhar lake and flows by Pushkar."² Sarda identifies it with Bandi river which in its lower reaches is called Luni.

Arnoraj also came in clash with Malwa. He also appears to have undertaken expeditions to Sindhu and Sarasvati regions. The mention in the Chauhan *Prashasti* that the march of his army "rendered muddy the waters of Kalindi (Jumna) and the women of Haritanaka (Hararyana) country shed tears" indicates that he invaded Tomars, whose capital was Dhillaka. It appears that during the campaign he did not spare the neighbouring kingdom of Varana (modern Bulandshahr).³

Owing to his successes, Arnoraj enjoys a high place in his dynasty. However, he was not much successful against the Chalukya rulers Jayasimha Siddharaj and Kumarapal, the two ablest rulers of the Chalukya dynasty. Arnoraj married the daughter of Jayasimha probably to have a free hand in Malwa but relations between Chauhans and Calukyias again deteriorated after Jayasimha's death. While Abhayatilakgani who wrote in 1255 A.D. tells that Arnoraj attacked Gujarat thinking Kumarapal to be weak,⁴ Merutunga states that the cause of the war was Chahada, adopted son of Siddharaj who was being supported by the Chauhan prince.⁵ But Rajashekhara (1348 A.D.), Jayasimha Suri, Jindaman and Charitrasundar inform that Arnoraj's ill-treatment of his queen Devaldevi, sister of Kumarapal, precipitated a conflict. This led H. B.

1. Early Chauhan Dynasties by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 43 and, The History and Culture of the Indian People Vol. V—The Struggle for Empire p. 82.

2. Dynastic History of Northern India Vol. II p. 1073.

3. Early Chauhan Dynasties by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 45

4. *ibid* p. 48.

5. Prabandhachintamani p. 79.

Sarda to think that two distinct wars were fought between Arnoraj and Kumarapal, the reason of first being Bahada, whose cause the former espoused. The result of this war appears to be unfavourable to Kumarapal as he hastened to make peace with Arnoraj and gave him his sister. The second war of V.S. 1207 appears to have taken place in consequence of Arnoraj's ill-treatment of his queen Devaldevi, sister of Kumarapal.¹

It is difficult to accept this view as Kumarapal had no sister named Devaldevi. Dr. Dasharatha Sharma has given another interpretation.² According to him, the first conflict occurred during the early reigns of Kumarapal due to disputed succession to the throne of Anhilwara. The second conflict took place after three or four years. Arnoraj drove out pro-Chalukya Alhana from Nadol and instigated Ballala of Malwa to rise against the common foe. Kumarapal left a contingent against Ballala, attacked and captured Pali in 1150 A.D. and thereafter sieged Ajmer. In the conflict, Arnoraj was defeated and had to give his younger daughter to Kumarapal. Ballala was killed. These defeats are mentioned in Vadnagar Prashasti of V.S. 1208 and Chittor inscription of V.S. 1207. It was sometime after this defeat that Arnoraj was assassinated by his son Jagdev.³ But soon after, Jagdev was ousted by his younger brother Vigraharaj IV.

Vigraharaj IV

Vigraharaj IV, also known as Bisaladeva, probably ascended the throne⁴ about V.S. 1208. The known dates of his rule extend from A.D. 1153 to 1163. "He conquered Dhillika (Delhi) from the Tomaras, and took possession of Asika, modern Hansi in the Hissar District in the Punjab. While carrying on conquest in the Punjab, he fought number of battles with the Muslims. In the south he plundered Pallika (Pali in Jodhpur), burnt Jabalipura, modern Jalore and sacked Nadol. All these territories were in the kingdom of the Chaulukya Kumarapala, and the Paramara Kumtapala was his adversary at Jabalipura.⁵ His kingdom, in the north, extended up to the Siwalik Hill, Saharanpur and Uttar Pradesh. Inscriptions of his reign give valuable information. The stone inscription found in Adhai-din-ka-Jhompara (Ajmer) has 75 lines and contains portions of the first four Acts of the drama Lalitvighra-

1. H. B. Sarda's *Ajmer Historical and Descriptive*.

2. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 50-54.

3. *Prithviraj Vijaya* VI 32, VII 12.

4. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 56.

5. *The History and Culture of the Indian People* Vol. V—The Struggle for Empire p. 82-83.

raja composed by the court poet Somdeva. The drama describes the romance of Vighraharaj with Desaldevi, daughter of prince Vasantpal of Indrapur who, according to Kielhorn, may have been a Tomar Chief.

Vighraharaj's policy towards Gujarat needs elucidation. One view¹ is that finding his way barred towards the south on account of Kumarapal, Vighraharaj turned his whole attention towards the northern region. The other view is that he repeatedly attacked the Chalukya kingdom to avenge the defeat of his father at the hands of Kumarapal.² He defeated and killed Sajjana who is mentioned in Kumarapal's Chittor inscription of V.S. 1207 and who had been appointed *dandadhish* of Chittor.³ The places most to suffer from the protracted hostilities between the Chauhan and the Chalukyas, were Nadol, Jalor and Pali which were ruled by the feudatories of the Chalukyas and which lay nearer to Sapadalaksha than other areas of the Chalukya dominion. If Chauhan Prashasti is to be believed, Vighraharaj had an upper hand in this conflict and he reduced Kumarapal to the position of *karavalapala* which perhaps means an officer of the same standing as *pratiharas* and *kuntapalas*.⁴ As Chauhan inscriptions of Vighraharaj's time appear in Bijolia, Mandalgarh and Jahajpur, it appears that he had added these areas to the Chauhan kingdom. He also defeated the Bhadanakas⁵ who inhabited the country which adjoins northern Shekhawati and goes now by the name of Ahiravati.

Vighraharaj's fame does not solely rest upon his distinguished military record. His patronage of culture and his devotion to scholarship entitle him to a high place among the early mediæval rulers. Like Munja and Bhojadeva of Malwa, he combined in himself elements of a great ruler and the attainments of a scholar. His *Harkeli natak* has been described as "not unworthy of the great poet Bhavbhuti." The great Sanskrit college, now a mosque and known as Adhai-din-ka-Jhompra was built by Vighraharaj as proved by two small inscriptions found in the staircase leading from the roof of the cloistered hall to the top of Imangah Mchrab. The Prithviraj Vijai, paying tribute to his patronage to learning, states⁶ that with his death the term *kavibandhava* i.e. the friend of the poets, disappeared. Merutunga also mentions this

1. *Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. II p. 1078.

2. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 56.

3. *Epigraphia Indica*, II. pp. 421 ff.

4. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 58.

5. *ibid* p. 59, fn. 22.

6. *Prithviraj Vijaya* VIII, p. 55.

epithet of Vighraharaj.¹ His court poet Somadeva's *Lalitavighraharaj* is considered a first rate historical drama.

Vighraharaj or Bisaladeva is said to have founded a number of towns also. One of these Visalpura after his name is situated "at the mouth of the chasm like gorge which runs through the Girwar mountain range in Mewar to Rajmahala."² He also constructed a lake, called Visalsar (Visla) after his name.³ His reign witnessed alround progress in the various fields and his name was respected from the Himalayas to Narbada. Indeed, it was the golden age of Sapadalaksha.

Vighraharaj was succeeded by his son Amargangeya also known as Aparagangeya, in 1164 A.D. He ruled for about six years and seems to have been ousted by his cousin, Prithviraj II, son of the parricide Jagadeva. This is indicated in the Dhod inscription of Prithviraj II which mentions his defeating the ruler of Sakambari. This ruler of Sakambari was no doubt Aparagangeya whom Prithviraj regarded a usurper.⁴

Prithviraj's Menal inscription of 1168 A.D., the Dhod stone inscription of 1169 A.D. and Menalgarh pillar inscription of 1170 A.D. indicate that his sway extended over these areas of Mewar. This seems quite likely looking to the weak position of the Guhilots at this time.

Prithviraj II

The Hansi inscription dated⁵ Magha Sudi 7, V.S. 1224 throws useful light on the extent of the Chauhan frontier in the north. It informs that Prithviraj II had appointed his maternal uncle, the Guhila Kilhana as the incharge of the fort of Hansi to keep the Muslims in check⁶ as Hammir had become 'the cause of the anxiety of the world.' The Chauhan ruler is also credited with over-running Panchapura which if identified with Panchapattan on Sutlej shows that he had obtained some success against the Yaminis of Lahore.⁷ On the whole, Prithviraj's reign was successful and the care he took to guard the northern frontier of

1. Prabandha Chintamani, p. 90.

2. Harbilas Sarda's Writings & Speeches p. 255.

3. Archaeological Survey of India Report, II p. 263.

4. Early Chauhan Dynasties by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 66.

5. Indian Antiquary 1912, pp. 17-19.

6. The History and Culture of the Indian People Vol. V—The Struggle for Empire p. 83.

7. Dynastic History of Northern India, Vol. II, p. 1080. Dasharatha Sharma identifies Panchapura with Panjaur, 'a very old town near Kalka.' (Early Chauhan Dynasties, p. 66).

the Chauhan kingdom shows his awareness of the foreign danger. He seems to have died issueless whereupon the ministers of Sakambari invited his uncle Someshwara, the only surviving son of Arnoraj, from the Chalukya court. The latter ascended the throne at the end¹ of V.S. 1226.

Someshwar was son of Kanchandevi, the daughter of Chalukya ruler Jayasimha Siddharaj. According to *Prithviraj Vijaya* he had been brought up at the Chauhan court first under the care of Jayasimha and later under his successor Kumarapal.² According to the same authority he participated in the latter's campaign against the Raja of Konkan whom he slew in the battle³ while at the Chalukya court he married Karpurdevi, daughter of Kalachuri prince Achalraj of Tripuri.⁴ Dr. H. C. Ray has not been able to identify this prince and suggests that he was 'a petty chief in the Chalukya court who claimed Haihaya lineage and relationship with the Tripuri branch.'⁵ But Dr. D. C. Sarkar has identified him with the Kalachuri ruler Gaya Karna (1125-1155 A.D.), while Dasharatha Sharma suggests him to be Gaya Karna's son Nrsimha.⁶ Prithviraj II and Hariraja were the fruits of this marriage.

Though the statement of *Prithviraj Raso* that Someshvara was slain in battle with Chalukya Bhimdev II is incorrect, latter's Patan inscription dated V.S. 1256 states that Ajayapal exacted tribute from the ruler of Sapadalaksha.⁷ The Kiradu inscription of V.S. 1235 also points towards a clash between the Chauhans and the Chalukyas.⁸ But it may be noted that though Chauhan-Chalukya relations were strained, two of the ministers of Someshvara i.e. Skanda and his son Sodha, were Gujarati Nagara Brahmins and Kadambavasa, who during the minority of Prithviraj III, wielded so much power, was also probably a minister of this prince.⁹

Someshwara is also credited to have built a town which he named after his father¹⁰ and issued coins which on the reverse, bears the figure

1. Prithviraj's last inscription is, of V. S. 1226, and the earliest one of Someshwara's *Phalguna Vadi 3*, V. S. 1226.

2. Prithviraj Vijaya VII, 35.

3. *ibid.*, verse 15.

4. Prithviraj Vijaya VIII, 18.

5. *Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. II, p. 1081.

6. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 69.

7. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 70.

8. *ibid* fn. 22, p. 70.

9. *ibid.*

10. Prithviraj Vijaya VIII 62-66.

of a humped bull and the legend "asavari sri-Sama (ntadeva)" and on the obverse, figure of a horseman and the legend "Sri-Someshvardeva."¹

Someshvara was succeeded by his son Prithviraj III in V.S. 1234. He was still a minor when his father died and for some time his mother Karpurdevi served as regent and carried on the administration of Ajmer with the help of a minister Kadambavasa and her brother Bhavanik Malla who had come to watch over the interest of his young nephew.³

The brief rule of Prithviraj was full of wars on all sides. It is difficult to say to what extent Prithviraj himself was responsible for it but constant wars at a time when the foreigners were threatening the independence of the country, brought disaster not only to Sapadalaksha but also to India.

The first military campaign of Prithviraj was against his own relation, Nagarjuna, who was one of the surviving sons of Vighraharaj and who had captured Gudapura.³ It seems that he had even occupied Ajmer for a brief period soon after the death of Someshvara.⁴ About this time, he also overthrew the Bhadanakas who ruled in the region now formed by the present Rewari tehsil, Bhiwani and its adjoining villages and a part of Alwar State.⁵ Next, Prithviraj attacked Jejakabhukti. His Madanpur inscriptions⁶ record that in 1182-83 A.D., he devastated Chandella kingdom ruled by Parmardideva (1165-1202 A.D.) On this occasion, Prithviraj was offered stiff resistance by Alha and Udal as well as the Kanauj army which had been sent to help the Chandelas. If Chand is to be believed, Prithviraj annexed Mahoba and appointed a Governor there.⁷ Two other works *Sarangadharapaddhati* and *Prabandha chintamani* record that the Chandella king put a piece of straw in his mouth to escape destruction.⁸ If the Chauhans really ruled in Mahoba, their rule did not last more than a year. This is indicated by Paramardin's

1. Early Chauhan Dynasties by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 70.

2. Prithviraj Vijaya, IX, 34, 35-43, 67-86.

The last inscription of Someshvara is of V. S. 1234 and the earliest one of Prithviraj is also of the same year.

3. Early Chauhan Dynasties by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 73.

4. *ibid.* p. 74.

5. *ibid.*

6. Archaeological Survey of India Reports Vol. XX Plate XXXII, Nos. 9, 10, 11.

7. Early Chauhan Dynasties by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma pp. 74-75. See also History of the Chandella by N. S. Bose (1956) pp. 93-97.

8. *Sarangadharapaddhati*, verse 1254, *Prabandhachintamani*, p. 116.

inscription¹ of A.D. 1183 found in the Mahoba fort. In fact, Chauhan rule over Mahoba for a long period in the presence of a powerful and hostile Kanauj was an impossibility.

The contemporary of Prithviraj at Anhilwara was Chalukya Bhim II (1178-1238 A.D.). Like Prithviraj, he was young at the time of his accession. His kingdom included Aghatpura in the north, Vagad, a part of Malwa and in the south it extended upto Broach.² The kingdom of Sakambari was equally large and no less powerful and included Hansi, Dhillika, a part of Jodhpur and in the south included Lohari and Dhod. If these two kingdoms had not indulged in war, they could have served an impenetrable bulwark against the rising power of the house of Ghor. But it was not to be; *Prithviraj Raso* states that Prithviraj fought two battles with Bhim, one near Nagar and the other near Mount Abu. The fight near Abu is also mentioned in the drama *Parthaparakrama-vyayoga* which states that Abu Parmar Dharavarsh repulsed a nocturnal attack of the king of Jangaladesh.³ The *Kharataragachchha pattavali* probably composed in 1336 A.D., also points towards hostilities between the Chauhans and the Chalukyas in which the former had the upper hand as is evident from the keenness of the Chalukyas in keeping intact the treaty concluded with the Chauhans.⁴

The epigraphic and the literary records throwing light on Prithviraj's relations with Jayachand are scant but the main outline can be drawn with sufficient accuracy. The relations between Ajmer and Kanauj had become strained since the time of Vighraharaj IV who by conquering Delhi from the Tomars, had deprived the Gahadwalas of the prize which they regarded as theirs. But if *Prithviraj Raso* is to be believed, the fresh cause of conflict between Ajmer and Kanauj was Prithviraj's daring abduction of the Gahadwal princess. Not only the epigraphic sources do not record this event, *Rambhamanjari* a drama by Naya Chandra Suri (written C. 1403 A.D.) of which Jaya Chand is the hero as well as *Hammirmahakavya* are silent about it. The account does not find a place in *Prithviraj Prabandhakosh* also. It is said,⁵ that not only *svayamvara* and *rajasuyayajna* had become obsolete, Jayachand's conquest were also not on a scale as to justify holding a celebration indica-

1. Archaeological Survey of India Reports XXXI p. 72.

2. Chalukyas of Gujarat by A. K. Majumdar p. 138

3. *ibid.*, p. 141; Early Chauhan Dynasties pp. 75-77

4. Dasharatha Sharma's Gleanings from the *Kharataragachchhapattavali*, IHQ, XXVI, 226.

5. History of Kanauj (1937) by R. S. Tripathi p. 326.

tive of paramount rank.¹ The other view is that Samyogita episode should not be rejected on insufficient grounds. Firstly, most of the information given by the author of *Rambhramanjari* about Jayachand cannot be substantiated. Secondly, silence of *Hammirmahakavya* regarding Samyogita affair does not disprove anything, for it is silent about so many other events also e.g. Prithviraj's wars with Pannardi and Bhim II. Moreover, *Surjanacharit* and *Akbarnama* also mention this account narrated in *Raso* "which originally may have been an *apabhramsha* work written in the 13th century Vikrama era." Even *Prithvirajavijaya* contains an indirect mention of the incident. Dr. S. K. Belwalkar, after a careful scrutiny of the manuscript material of *Prithvirajvijaya*, has also shown that the verses missing in the printed text describe the princess's home situated on the bank of Nakanadi i.e. Ganga and this place was probably Kanauj. Lastly, there are other instances also when to humiliate a rival, his statue was placed at the gates. Thus Sanjan Plates of Amoghavarsha inform that Dantidurga Rashtrakuta made his rivals the Gurjara ruler and some others his gate keepers in the *hiranyagarbha mahadan* at Ujjain. In fact, the tradition about this event is so widespread and as Prithviraj and Jayachand were not on cordial terms, the account of *Raso* does not appear to be improbable. This exploit of Prithviraj full of recklessness, chivalry and romance was in keeping with his character as gleaned from the other events of his life.

Thus by waging wars on all sides, Prithviraj Chauhan had incurred hostility of other states of northern India which could have been of assistance to him in a conflict with the foreigners. Though signally defeated at the foot of Mount Abu by the Chalukya army in 1178 A.D.,² Muhammad Ghori was successful in ending the Ghaznavide rule in Panjab in 1186 A.D.³ Now the boundaries of the Chauhans and the Ghoride kingdoms touched and a final clash between the two powers became a question of time. Muhammad Ghori saw the gate leading to the heart of India barred by Sapadalaksha ruler who regarded the destruction of the Turuskas his special mission in the world.

Prithviraj Prabandh and *Hammirmahakavya* state that seven times Muhammad Ghori was defeated before Prithviraj himself was vanquished. *Prabandhachintamani*, *Prabandhakosh* and *Prithviraj Raso* give the number of Ghori's invasion as twenty-one. These figures, which might be a little exaggerated, suggest that before the first battle of Tarain in

1. History of Kanauj, (1937) by R. S. Tripathi p. 326.

2. *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* (Raverty's translation), Vol. I pp. 451-2; *Tabaqat-i-Akbari* Vol. I, p. 36.

3. *Foundation of Muslim Rule in India* by A. B. M. Habibullah p. 53-54.

1191 A.D., foreign Musalmans made several incursions in Sapadalaksha kingdom. These were perhaps of a probing nature and were repulsed. The major battles were probably not more than two, fought in the plain of Tarain in 1191 A.D. and in 1192 A.D.

In the late 1190 A.D., Muhammad Ghori started with a large army and captured Tabarhindah, the Chauhan outpost in the border region. He had hardly moved away from his prize after placing it under the care of one Qazi Ziauddin of Tulak with a garrison of 1200 horse and with orders to hold on till the coming winter, when he learnt the disconcerting news of Prithviraj's approach with a formidable army.¹ Instead of making to Lahore, he moved to Tarain (in Karnal district) and awaited Chauhan onslaught. The Chauhan attack on the left and right wings proved irresistible and the vanguard of the enemy also broke down by the sheer thrust of the Indians.² But Ghori remained undismayed by the disaster to his ranks. Sighting Govindraj of Delhi who was mounted on his elephant, Ghori rushed towards him and with his spear, knocked out two of his teeth. The Tomar chieftain despite the blow returned the stroke and his flying javelin seriously wounded Ghori on his upper arm. The Muslim invader reeled off his horse but such was the pain and shock on account of the wound, that he was about to fall from the horse when a young bright Khilji leaped up behind him and holding him in his arm, carried his master out of the battle field. The army of the invader was completely routed but curiously he was not pursued but allowed to reassemble and retreat to safer environs.³

The Chauhan then besieged Tabarhindah. After 13 months, the foreigners surrendered the fort on honourable terms.⁴ The long siege shows that the Indians had poor siege equipment. The Muslim inva-

1. *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* (Raverty's translation), pp. 455-464.

2. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 82-83.

3. *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* (Translated by Raverty), Vol. I, pp. 457-64; *Tabaqat-i-Akbari*, p. 38-39.

4. *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*, op. cit, p 464.

For the controversy about the identification of Tabarhindah, see *Early Chauhan Dynasties* p. 82. fn. 51, Habibullah's *Foundation of Muslim Rule in India*, p. 57, fn. 1; *Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. II, p. 1087, fn. 2. Though it is difficult to say whether Tabarhindah was Bhatinda or Sirhind of today yet it is difficult to agree with Dr. Habibullah who suggests that a transposition of a few dots & a careless joining of letters are all that is required to make Bhatinda read Tabarhindah and even Sirhindah for the reason that the mention of Tabarhindah occurs in a number of works and it is improbable that the error could have been repeated so often.

ders, only a few years later, demonstrated their great efficiency in reducing formidable forts of India.

According to traditional account, after his victory at Tarain, Prithviraj devoted his energies against the Gahadavalas and incurred their acute hostility by carrying off Samyogita from the swayamvara being held at Kanauj.¹ While he was wasting his energies thus, his mortal enemy was preparing to avenge defeat, caring neither for sleep nor food.²

In the late 1192, Muhammad Ghori set out with an army of one lakh twenty thousand select horseman to avenge the defeat. Hasan Nizami, almost a contemporary, states, that when Ghori reached Lahore, he sent an ultimatum to Prithviraj asking him to embrace Islam and acknowledge his supremacy. This was haughtily rejected and having received aid from 'most of the Rajas of Hind', Prithviraj advanced with three lakh horse to meet the enemy, to whom he also sent a message advising him to return to his own country and promised not to molest him. "The Sultan", Hasan Nizami writes, "in order to deceive him and throw him off his guard" replied: "It is by command of my brother, my sovereign, that I come here and endure trouble and pain; give me sufficient time that I may despatch an intelligent person to my brother to represent to him an account of thy power, and that I may obtain his permission to conclude a peace with thee under the terms that Tarhind (Tabarhind), the Punjab and Multan shall be ours, and the rest³ of the country thine" Ferishta has also repeated this account.⁴ It appears that Muhammad Ghori attacked the Hindu army during a truce which Prithviraj Chauhan accepted as genuine. *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* and *Jami-ul-Hikayat* also indicate that Sultan used a ruse against Prithviraj. It is certain that the Indians were completely taken by surprise which was possible only when they had relied upon the words of their enemy.⁵

Dawn had just broken and the Indians had left for obeying the call of nature and for ablutions when four divisions each of ten thousand mounted archers of Muhammad Ghori surrounded their encampment. Prithviraj was still asleep, thanks to the base trickery of

1. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 84.

2. *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri* Vol. I. (Raverty's translation) p. 464.

3. *ibid.* p. 466, fn. 1.

4. *Tarikh-i-Firishta* by Hindu Beg Ferishta (Brigg's translation) Vol. I, pp. 175-76.

5. *Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. II, pp. 1091; *Early Chauhan Dynasties* pp. 84-85.

the enemy. The Indians were "amazed and confounded" but they put up a fight 'in the best manner they could'. In fact, they could have still saved the day but deceived by feigned retreat of the enemy, they embarked upon an unsystematic pursuit and soon there was utter confusion in their ranks. By afternoon, Prithviraj's army was completely worn out and it could not resist the fierce charge of a fresh division,¹ the flower of Ghori's army which he had kept in reserve for this very moment.

Among the 10 thousand² patriotic Indians who fell on that day, was also Govindraj of Delhi. Prithviraj alighted from his elephant and tried to escape on a horse but he was overtaken near Sarsuti. He was taken to Ajmer, where he was found intriguing against the life of his captor and hence was put to death.³ According to *Prabandhachintamani*, the Sultan had a mind to reinstate Prithviraj but later changed his mind. A coin issued from the Delhi mint bearing the names of both Prithviraj and Muhammad bin Sam is believed to indicate that the Sultan wanted to retain Prithviraj as his vassal.⁴ But it is highly doubtful that Ghori could have ever thought of allowing so dangerous an enemy as Prithviraj to survive. It is not improbable that the authorities of the Delhi mint acted with undue haste and on hearing that Prithviraj was being taken to Ajmer and relying upon some rumour, brought out such a coin.

The battle of Tarain of 1192 A.D. was a greater debacle for the Indians than the Third Battle of Panipat (1761 A.D.) It practically ended the sovereignty of the Chauhans of Sakambari and opened the flood gates for a foreign rule in India. It terminated the proud and independent career of Sakambari and Ajmer.

Prithviraj III had to pay dearly for his policy of wars with his neighbours who watched with pleasure his tragic downfall, not knowing that their own turn was not distant. Prithviraj died when in the prime of his youth and yet left a name much greater than all his contemporaries including his victor. At the end of his short career, he

1. *Tabaqat-i-Nasiri*, I, p. 468, fn. 1; *Tarikh-i-Firishta*, I, p. 176; *Early Chauhan Dynasties* p. 86.

2. *Tajul-Maasir* ED II, p. 215.

3. *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 87, also fn. *ibid*.

4. *Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. II, pp. 1091; *Early Chauhan Dynasties* p. 87; *Prabandhachintamani*, pp. 117-18. The account of Prithviraj's end in *Prithviraj Raso* (66th Samaya) does not stand scrutiny and cannot be accepted.

appears to have acquired some vices and had become indolent. Yet his personal charm, his regard for the learned¹, his sense of chivalry and his brilliance as a military leader, had the same old lustre. Prithviraj met a martyr's death in the defence of his country and his name will remain enshrined in the annals of India for all times to come.

Muhammad Ghori left Ajmer after leaving the government in the hands of Prithviraj's son². Surely he was very young and hence a pliable instrument in the hands of the foreigners.

The fate of the Chauhans was now sealed and the courageous attempt of Prithviraj's brother, Hariraja, only provides an epilogue to the tragedy. He drove out his nephew from Ajmer and thence besieged him in Ranthambor. But he had to raise the siege on the arrival of the Muslim reinforcements. During 1192-94, seeing that the foreigners were busy in capturing Kanauj, Banaras, Koil etc., Hariraja made a last bid to retrieve the fortune. He despatched an army under Jaitra towards Delhi and gave considerable trouble to the enemy but could not achieve any permanent gain. Hariraja and Jaitra Singh were ultimately besieged in the fort of Ajmer by Qutb-ud-din Aibak who, after the fall of Kanauj, was now free to devote himself fully to the destruction of the patriotic Chauhans. After a siege of few days, Hariraja and Jaitra Singh, despairing all chances of success, sacrificed themselves in the flames of fire.³ Ajmer finally slipped from the hands of the Chauhans in the dark of Vaisakh V.S. 1251 and with it the curtain was hung upon the 500 years old history of the kingdom of Sapadalaksha.

MEDIEVAL PERIOD

Ajmer was now annexed and made a part of the Turkish conquests in India. The decision was taken by Qutb-ud-din Aibak who inherited the Indian conquests of Ghori in 1206 A.D.

Qutb-ud-din Aibak

It appears that at this time, Ajmer and Delhi were the two most important places and enjoyed political importance, next only to Lahore

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1. For Prithviraj's patronage to learning, see *Early Chauhan Dynasties* by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma.
 2. For the controversy about the name of Prithviraj's successor, see *Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. II, p. 1093; A. B. M. Habibullah's *Foundation of Muslim Rule in India*, p. 59, fn. 6.
 3. For the efforts of Hariraja and his end, see *Early Chauhan Dynasties* p. 101; *Foundation of Muslim Rule in India*, by A. B. M. Habibullah p. 63-64.

which was the headquarters of these foreigners. The best building of Aibak's time, *Adhai-din-ka-Jhompra*¹ was built by him from the material obtained after destroying a nobler building, the Sanskrit College of Vigraharaj IV. In spite of hurried construction, it is superior to the Jami Masjid at Delhi, also erected by Aibak. It was also in Ajmer that one of the highly venerated sufi saints Khwaja Muin-ud-din Chisti breathed his last in 1235 A.D.² Ajmer being the capital of the Chauhans, it was natural that this place enjoyed greater importance than Delhi which became prominent from the time of Iltutmish (1210-36 A.D.) Yet in the political organisation of the foreigners, Ajmer does not seem to have been more than an important cantonment. At this time, it was not a *vilayat* (province) or an *akta* i.e. assignment to some military officer. Conditions were far from settled in the newly established Sultanate and Aibak was constantly worried on account of powerful rivals—Tajuddin Yalduz and Nasir-ud-din Qubacha, who held respectively Ghazni and Uch. Qutb-ud-din had no time to give shape to the administration and the prevalent state of affairs suggests that Ajmer was not an administrative unit of the Sultanate.

Iltutmish

After Aibak's death at Lahore in 1210 A.D., there was a brief struggle between Aram Shah who had ascended at Lahore and Iltutmish who had entrenched himself at Delhi. Iltutmish emerged successful, but during the first fifteen years of his reign, he had to face serious threats in the north-west and suffer deprivation of large territories, and so he could not retain Ajmer. It seems that the Chauhans of Ranthambhor against whom Iltutmish carried a successful campaign in A.D. 1226, had established their hold over Ajmer. But Iltutmish managed to recover the lost areas and we are told that he granted Siwalik, Ajmer, Lava, Kasli and Sambhar to Malik Nasir-ud-din Aitmur Bahai who held the *akta* of Lahore³. It is obvious that Ajmer was not a large administrative unit as it was held by the *muqta* of Lahore. In 1241 A.D. Ajmer, along with Nagor and Mandor were granted to Malik Izzuddin Balban Kishlu Khan by the new Sultan Alauddin Masud. But at another place⁴ while giving a biographical sketch of Balban, Minhaj-us-Siraj writes that Balban received the *vilayat* of Nagor from Sultan Alauddin. Here he does not mention Ajmer and Mandor. The two statements, if

1. For a detailed description of *Adhai-din-ka-Jhompra*, see *Ajmer Historical and Descriptive* by H. B. Sarda, pp. 68-82.

2. *The Foundation of Muslim Rule in India* by A. B. M. Habibullah p. 305.

3. *Tabqat-i-Nasiri* p. 236.

4. *ibid.* p. 270.

read together, indicate that Ajmer and Mandor probably were a part of the vilayat or province of Nagor. This is quite significant though not surprising. Iltutmish had conducted large scale administrative reforms, and certainly the main outlines of the Sultanate administration were drawn by him. It appears that by this time the administrative units had begun to crystallise and Ajmer was included in the vilayat of Nagor. Along with Bhatinda etc. Nagor formed the frontier outposts and was more suitable from the point of view of military administration, than places like Ajmer. Obviously the Delhi Sultans followed a forward policy not only in military matters but also in the administrative set up.

Hammir Dev of Ranthambhor

It appears that Ajmer and the neighbouring areas remained in the hands of the Turks till Balban's time. But soon after his death in 1287 A.D., most of these were regained by Hammir Dev Chauhan of Ranthambhor who had ascended¹ the throne in V.S. 1339 (1282 A.D.). The pre-occupations of Balban and the weakness in the Sultanate following his death facilitated the task of the ambitious and valiant Chauhan who asserted his supremacy over Chittor, Abu and Pushkar² besides other territories. There is no doubt that during the last two decades of the 13th century, Rajputs recovered much of the lost ground and strength. While Hammir was emerging as a power to be reckoned with in the northern Rajputana, Rawal Samar Singh of Mewar also "lifted the deeply sunk Gurjara land high out of the Turushka sea."³ Jalor had also become independent.

Alauddin Khilji

But Rajput success proved to be short lived. After Hammir's defeat and death at the hands of Alauddin Khilji in 1301 A.D. it seems that Ajmer again became a part of the Sultanate. Two years afterwards Chittor was also reduced and in 1308-09, Siwana and Jalor were also annexed. It seems that though the foreigners could not retain Chittor, they managed to keep Ajmer and Ranthambhor under subjection.

Supremacy of Mewar

The next we hear of the recovery of Ajmer is between 1364-82 A.D. by Kshetra Singh of Mewar.⁴ In fact, after 1336 A.D., the various areas

1. Early Chauhan Dynasties by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 107.

2. *ibid.*

3. *Indian Antiquary*, 1887, p. 347.

4. *Ajmer Historical and Descriptive* by H. B. Sarda p. 149.

of the Sultanate started falling off and the rise of Mewar and Marwar during this period shows that the Turkish hold on Rajputana had considerably weakened. After Kshetra Singh's death (c. 1405) his son Lakha subjugated the entire Merwara, and Ran Mal of Marwar, the brother-in-law of Lakha is said to have captured the fort of Garh Vitli by stratagem¹ and restored it to Mewar. Lakha was succeeded by Mokal in 1420 A.D. He is said to have taken possession of Sambhar and its salt lake.² At this time, Saiyyad Dynasty was ruling at Delhi and fortunes of the Sultanate were at a very low ebb.

Mahmud Khilji of Malwa

But Ajmer enjoyed no peace as it remained a coveted prize in the eyes of all who had power to back their ambition. Relations between Mewar and Marwar had been severely estranged after assassination of Chonda in 1438 A.D. His son Jodha had escaped with his life to Marwar and while Mewar was busy in wars against Malwa and Gujarat, he is said to have driven away the Sisodia Sardars one by one and captured Mandor, Sojat, Merta, and Ajmer.³ But soon after, it seems that Ajmer was lost by Marwar and this time it fell in the hands of Sultan Mahmud Khilji of Malwa. The Malwa ruler who had been at war (1443-48 A.D.) with Rana Kumbha entered into an agreement with Sultan Qutb-ud-din of Gujarat in 1453 A.D. to the effect that Gujarat army would plunder and ravage such parts of Kumbha's dominions as were contiguous to Gujarat while Mahmud Shah would take possession of Mewar and Ajmer and all the neighbouring countries and whenever necessary either of the parties would not refuse help to the other.⁴ The outcome of this clash was controversial and though both the parties claimed victory, it seems that for a time, Malwa ruler succeeded in capturing Ajmer. It is said that Kumbha recovered it after a few months, but it was lost to Malwa again after his death.

Rana Sanga and Karamchand

In the last decade of the 15th century, Ajmer was in the hands of Mallu Khan,⁵ an officer of Malwa Sultan whom Prithviraj, the eldest son of Maharana Rayamala slew when he took by assault the citadel of Garh Vitli. The condition of Malwa had considerably deteriorated

1. *Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan* by Lt. Col. James Tod.

2. *ibid.* Vol. I p. 228.

3. *The History and Culture of the Indian People* Vol. VI—The Delhi Sultanate p. 331.

4. *ibid.* pp. 178-179.

5. *Ajmer Historical and Descriptive* by H. B. Sarda p. 150.

since the accession of Ghiyas-ud-din (A.D. 1469) and this process continued during the reign of his son Nasir-ud-din (1500-11 A.D.).¹ It is certain that Ajmer had been recovered by Mewar during the life time of Rayamala (1473-1509 A.D.). Subsequently, a dispute arose between the three sons of Rayamala and Sanga, the second son took shelter with Rao Karam Chand, the Parmar Chief of Srinagar. Later, when Sanga ascended the throne in 1509 A.D., he bestowed Ajmer upon Karam Chand. It remained under Mewar² upto about 1533 A.D.

Rao Maldeo

In 1527 A.D., Mewar suffered a serious blow at Khanua and in 1533 A.D., Bahadur Shah of Gujarat, during his expedition against Chittor, sent Shamsheer-ul-mulk to reduce Ajmer. But the hold of Gujarat Sultan over Ajmer lasted only for two years.³ In 1535, he had to suffer heavy losses at the hands of emperor Humayun and his power for a time appeared to have ended. This opportunity was availed of by Rao Viramdev of Merta who took possession of Ajmer in 1535 A.D. after expelling Bahadur Shah's men. But in the same year, Viramdev's overlord, Rao Maldeo, who had ascended⁴ the throne of Jodhpur in 1532 A.D., appropriated Ajmer and bestowed it upon the more loyal Kupawat Mahesh Ghasinghot.⁵ Maldeo also erected a bastion, Kote Burj in Garh Vitli and installed a wheel to bring water in the fort, utilising a part of the "wealth of Sambhar". We are told that Ajmer was one of those thirty eight districts of Marwar which contained three hundred and sixty townships.⁶ Besides Ajmer, the areas subsequently covered by the state of Kishangarh, the Istamarardari estates and the district of Merwara must have been included in Rathor territory. After losing Ajmer, Viramdev first went to Mandu. He was unsuccessful in procuring the help of the Sultan and went to Sher Shah, who had become emperor in 1540 A.D. after defeating Humayun. As Sher Shah regarded Maldeo a potential threat, he set out in January 1544 with an army of 80 thousand against the Marwar ruler. When Maldeo was informed of Sher Shah's advance he took position at Ajmer with 50 thousand men but had to withdraw in order to block the advance of the invader, who had encamped at Sumel, about 30 miles south-west of Ajmer. Here Mal-

1. The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. VI—The Delhi Sultanate p. 181-82.

2. Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan by Lt. Col. James Tod Vol. I, p. 236.

3. Bayley's History of Gujarat p. 373.

4. Jodhpur Rajya Ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha, Vol. I, p. 285.

5. *ibid.*

6. Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan by Lt. Col. James Tod Vol- II

deo fell into the snare of the wily Afghan and the part of his army under Jaita and Kunpa, which engaged Sher Shah, perished heroically. After his victory, Sher Shah sent a part of his army to occupy Ajmer and himself advanced upto Jodhpur where he stayed for a few months. He then returned to Ajmer leaving Jodhpur under his general Khawās Khan. After a few days, he returned to Agra.

Akbar

After Sher Shah's death in A.D. 1545, Afghan hold on Rajputana was considerably weakened. Maldeo recovered Jodhpur but Ajmer and Ranthambhor remained under Afghan officers of Islam Shah Sur. During the last few years of the Sur dynasty, Haji Khan, who was one of the able commanders of Sher Shah, was holding Mewat as fief and during 1554-55, he probably declared his independence. After the second battle of Panipat (1556 A.D.) which finally ended the power of the Surs, Akbar's general Bairam Khan sent an army towards Mewat. Haji Khan then retreated and took possession of Ajmer.¹ Soon after, Haji Khan was embroiled in a clash with Rao Maldeo as he had plundered a few villages of Marwar. Even if he had not done so, Rao Maldeo would have attacked him, for, the latter looked upon Ajmer as his own. But the situation was complicated when on Haji Khan's appeal, Rana Udai Singh along with Rao Surjan Hada of Bundi and Rao Jaimal Mertia etc. joined him against Maldeo. The Bikaner ruler Kalyanmal also joined Haji Khan. Marwar forces withdrew this time. But soon the allies fell out when Haji Khan refused to give forty maunds of gold and a dancing girl, demanded by Mewar as a price for help. This time Haji Khan appealed to Maldeo who readily sent help under a number of prominent Sardars. On 24 January, 1557 the forces of Mewar along with those of Bikaner and Merta suffered defeat at Harmara in the vicinity of Ajmer. Haji Khan retained Ajmer, while Maldeo satisfied himself with Merta.²

But the former Chauhan capital was destined to acquire stability and eminence again. When Mughal army under Saiyad Muhammad Kasim Khan Nishapuri³ approached Ajmer in 1557 A.D., Haji Khan, after offering some resistance withdrew towards Marwar and, the city and the fort came in the hands of the Mughals in the beginning of 1558 A.D.

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1. The History of India as told by its own Historians by Elliot & Dowson Vol. VI, p. 22.
 2. Jodhpur Rajya Ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha p. 319-20; Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda p. 153
 3. The History of India as told by its own Historians by Elliot & Dowson Vol. VI, p. 22.

With it the second phase in the life of Ajmer ended. Its most glorious period was when it was the capital of the well known Sakambhari kingdom and seat of activity of powerful and talented rulers like Vigraharaj IV and Prithviraj III. During its second phase (1196-1558 A.D.) it remained a prey to the greed of the Sultans of Delhi, Malwa, Gujarat and Mewar and Marwar also exerted utmost to secure it. Being a precious prize on account of its strategic situation and enjoying the aura which surrounded it on account of its past association with the Chauhans, Ajmer changed hands a number of times. At last, emperor Akbar launched it on a quiet but significant career as the capital of an important Suba of the Mughal empire. The third phase in the history of Ajmer had now begun and it was to last about hundred and forty years.

It is interesting to note that Ajmer was not a well known centre of Muslim pilgrimage even up to the middle of the 15th century, though Pushkar continued to attract devout Hindus in large numbers. In fact, no masonry tomb was built over the remains of Khwaja Muin-ud-din Chisti up to 1464 A.D. For two hundred and fifty years the saint remained almost forgotten though account of his piety and miraculous powers survived in the songs of minstrels. Once while hunting near Midhakur, 8 miles west of Agra, Akbar heard songs in praise of the Khwaja which excited his curiosity¹ and he decided to visit Ajmer to pay his homage to the sacred shrine. He set out in January 1562 and after a brief stay at Ajmer, returned via Sambhar where he received the hand of the Amber princess. He was back in Agra² on Friday the 13th February, 1562.

Akbar's visit to Ajmer proved historic in more than one way. He developed a spontaneous faith in the "blessed influence" of the Khwaja upon his fortunes. His repeated pilgrimages to Ajmer changed the very status of this town and made it one of the most well known places in India and other Muslim countries. The matrimonial alliance which Akbar formed while on his return from Ajmer, inaugurated a new era in Mughal-Rajput relations and exercised a deep influence on his religious and Hindu policies.

While returning from Ajmer, Akbar directed Mirza Sharf-ud-din Hussain, the governor of Mewar and Ajmer to capture Merta, which was held by Jaimal Rathor. Mirza succeeded in his mission and after

1. Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda p. 86.

2. Akbar the Great by A. L. Srivastava Vol. I, pp. 61-62.

3. Akbarnama Vol. II, pp. 154-158.

some time, he came to the court.¹ But on November 5, 1562, he took to flight 'from motives of suspicion', reached Ajmer and fortified the place. Akbar dismissed Sharf-ud-din and sent Husain Quli Khan, after granting him Ajmer and Nagor as *tuyul*, along with other grandees to pursue the rebel. When Mirza heard of the approach of Husain Quli Khan, he went away to Nagor after leaving Tarkhan Diwana, a trusted adherent, to defend Ajmer.² But after two or three days, Tarkhan Diwana capitulated and Husain Quli Khan took possession of Ajmer and Nagor, and arranged for their settlement.³ Sharf-ud-din Khan fled to Gujarat and thence to Mecca.⁴

Suba of Ajmer was one of the ten provinces comprising Akbar's empire. The town of Ajmer, the former capital of the Chauhans of Sakambhari, now became the provincial capital of a Mughal Suba. From here, the proud Rajput States were kept in check, and their power was used in the interest of empire rather than in inconclusive battles against each other. This led to stable conditions in Rajputana and promoted peace and prosperity.

The length of the Suba of Ajmer from the village of Pokhar (Bhakar-Pushkar) and dependencies of Amber to Bikaner and Jaisalmer was 168 kos (roughly 336 miles). Its breadth from the extreme limits of the Sarkars of Ajmer to Banswara was 150 kos (roughly 300 miles). To its east lay Agra, to the north the dependencies of Delhi, to the south Gujarat and to the west Dipalpur and Multan.⁵ It comprised 7 Sarkars and 197 parganahs. "The measured land," informs Abul Fazl, "is 2 *krors*, 14 lakhs, 35941 *bighas*, 7 *biswas*. The revenue in money is 28 *krors* 84 lakhs, 1,557 *dams*, (Rs. 7,210, 308-14-9) of which 23 lakhs, 26,336 *dams* (Rs. 51,158-6-5) are *Suyurghal*." The revenue of Ajmer Sarkar alone was 6 crores, 21 lacs, 83,890 *dams*. It consisted of 28 *mahals* and contributed 16,000 horse and 80,000 foot soldiers. The following list⁶ given in *Ain-i-Akbari* shows the places comprised by Sarkar Ajmer. The revenue figures from these areas during Akbar's time is also being given.

Sarkar Ajmer—containing 28 parganahs, 5,605,487 *bighas*⁷. Revenue in money, 62,183,390 *dams*; *Sayurghal* 14,75,714 *dams*.

1. Akbarnama Vol. II, pp. 160-62; Tabqat-i-Akbari Vol. II, p. 156.

2. Ain-i-Akbari Vol. I, p. 349, Maasir-ul-Umara Vol. I, p. 646.

The History of India as told by its own Historians by Elliot & Dowson Vol. V, p. 282.

3. *ibid*.

4. Akbar the Great by A. L. Srivastava Vol. I, p. 78.

5. Ain-i-Akbari by Abul Fazl Translated by Col. H. S. Jarrett Vol. II, p. 273.

6. *ibid*. p. 278.

7. *ibid*.

	Bighas	Revenue D	Sayurghal D
Ajmer with District its fort on a hill, one of the most important in India	7,05,335	6,214,731	—
Amber, has stone fort on a hill	11,35,095	12,256,297	8,02,440
Arain	2,79,295	2,200,000	—
Parbat (-sar)	90,488	486,161	—
Phagi	3,49,774	1,400,000	—
Bhinai	68,712	271,256	—
Bharana [Baghera]	168,712	749,733	—
Bawal [? Borach]	81,914-11	600,000	—
Bahal [Bail]	15,522	435,664	15,674
Bandir Sindri	24,220	270,000	—
Bharonda	351,779-12	3,300,000	—
Tusina [? Tiloma]	138,718	241,442	—
Jobner	27,002-18	501,644	—
Jhak	49,065	1,200,000	—
Deogaron [Baghera]	76,548	692,512	—
Koshanpur [? Kishanpur]	194,064	9,649,947	277,537
Sambhar, has a stone fort	245,136	1,616,825	—
Sarwar, has a brick fort	72,098	1,270,000	16,027
Sithla [Setholia] ..	147,023	1,860,016	—
Kekri	50,640	1,808,000	—
Kherwah	71,356	7,020,347	—
Masot	252,871	5,756,402	—
Muzabul	251,073	1,450,577	—
Masumlabul [Masuda]	14,361	1,587,970	—
Naraini	266,614	2,660,159	260,100
Harauli, has a brick fort	163,273	1,220,026	926

A major part of Suba Ajmer comprising the tributary states, and the 7 Sarkars, only Ajmer and Nagor were directly administered.¹ But in Sarkar Ajmer, a large part was in possession of petty tributary chiefs. The above list includes Bhinai, Masuda, Kharwah, and probably, Sawar, four of the five houses from which other Istimrardari estates ramified. The fifth, Pisangan was probably too small and it was during Shah Jahan's time that Kesari Singh, a grand son of Mota Raja Udai Singh ejected the Panwar Rajputs from there and obtained the grant of the fief. The table shows that no Sayurghals were granted out of these areas, indicating that these were in the hands of tribute paying chiefs. For revenue purposes, the states were treated just like any other Sarkar of the empire, unlike the treatment given to them during the British rule. Absence of Sayurghals in the Sarkars of Bikaner, Jodhpur, and Sirohi indicate that most of the mahals were held by the tributary rulers and only a few were administered by the provincial governor. The army figures of Ajmer, as well as those of Ranthambhor and Chittor are not given mahalwise and their totals are given which indicate that 'the local militia also was raised by chiefs and not through the government agency.'²

The provincial governor³ enjoyed extensive powers. He saw that the feudatory chiefs sent the *mataliba* to the Suba treasury in time and furnished their contingents in the prescribed manner and strength. Ajmer was the capital of the Suba and the Governor, Diwan, Chief Qazi, Sadr, Faujdar⁴ and other high officials of the Sarkar, had their headquarters in this town. During Akbar's time, Ajmer was one of the fourteen cities, where copper coins were struck.⁵ All these made Ajmer the nerve centre of Mughal power in Rajputana and the frequent visits of Akbar further enhanced its importance.

No Mughal emperor, it should be mentioned, visited Ajmer more frequently than Akbar, though the duration of his stay was usually short. His first visit to this town has already been noted. In 1567, he granted 18 villages to meet the expenses of the *dargah* and one per

1. Provincial Government of the Mughals by Parmatmasaran p. 126.

2. *ibid.* p. 127.

3. For his powers, see *ibid.* p. 183-188.

4. Faujdars were usually high officers. In the 6th year of Jahangir's reign Bithaldas Gaur was appointed faujdar of Ajmer. In the 23rd year, Abusaid, grandson of Itmad-ud-daula was made faujdar of Ajmer on the request of Nurjahan Begam.

5. *Ain-i-Akbari*, Vol. I, p. 32.

cent on the sale of salt at Sambhar as "wakf-langar-i-mazar."¹ He came again in March 1568 after the fall of Chittor as he had taken a vow before the commencement of the siege that, if successful, he would walk to the shrine of the Khwaja Muin-ud-din Chishti at Ajmer for thanks giving. "In fulfilment of this vow he walked in the hot weather of early summer a few stages from Chittor to Mandal where he was persuaded by a message from the priestly attendants of the shrine to take a conveyance as the Khwaja had appeared to them in a vision and had wished that the emperor might ride."² The emperor however, performed the last stages of the journey on foot. He reached Ajmer on the 6th March and after staying for nine days returned to Agra where he arrived³ on 13 April, 1568. Another pilgrimage on foot was made by Akbar when after a long period of waiting he was blessed by a son, named Salim (August 30, 1569). He set out from Agra on January 20, 1570, and on reaching Ajmer, 'spent several days in devotion and charity' and returned to Agra⁴ on May 2. In June 1570, Akbar's second son Murad was born at Sikri. Akbar again made pilgrimage to Ajmer in September for thanks giving. On this occasion, he arranged for the repair of the fort and enlargement of the fortifications. Work on many good buildings for the accommodation of the emperor and the court was started and was completed in three years.⁵ Among the buildings constructed was Akbar's palace which still stands in good condition. It is a massive square building in Fatehpur Sikri style. It has four octagonal bastions at the corners, an audience chamber in the centre and an imposing gateway towards the west which faces the town. Nobles and officers were also asked to build suitable mansions and to lay out gardens. Akbar also built a mosque in the dargah known as Akbari Masjid. He left Ajmer for Nagor on November 3rd, 1570.

Between 1570-79 A.D., Akbar visited Ajmer every year on Urs. In 1573, he ordered⁶ construction of rest houses at every stage on the road from Agra to Ajmer as he would be making pilgrimages to the shrine of Muin-ud-din Chisti every year. Badaoni informs that at every kos, tower was erected studded with thousands of horns of deer, which the emperor had killed during his life time. These towers had wells in proximity. Badaoni laments this wastage of money and expresses the wish that "His Majesty had made gardens and sarais instead."⁷

1. Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda, p. 98.

2. Akbar the Great by A. L. Srivastava p. 120.

3. Ain-i-Akbari, Vol. II, pp. 328-29.

4. *ibid.* pp. 349-52; Akbar the great Mogul by V. A. Smith p. 103.

5. Akbarnama Vol. II, pp. 336-57; Tabqat-i-Akbari Vol. II, pp. 229-230.

6. Ain-i-Akbari, Vol. I, p. 300 fn. 5.

7. *ibid.*

His last visit to Ajmer in 1579 A.D. was made after the Urs and as Abdul Fazl tells us frankly that this visit was primarily meant for "calming the public and enhancing the submission of the recalcitrants." He never visited Ajmer again and in the following year, sent prince Daniyal as his representative.¹

In 1592, Akbar grouped the provinces of his empire into four zones for fiscal purposes. Ajmer along with Gujarat and Malwa formed one zone.² It is significant to note that the province of Ajmer whose capital was the highest seat of Muslim pilgrimage in India, was placed in charge of two Hindu governors—Jagannath and Rai Durga³ when Akbar reorganised the provincial administration. In September 1599, Akbar appointed prince Salim as governor of Ajmer and was directed to leave for that city and open campaign against Rana Amar Singh of Mewar. Man Singh was also directed to accompany the prince. On reaching Ajmer, Salim wasted his time in bad company, though his officers did establish strong outposts at Mandal, Chittor and other places. But soon, Man Singh had to leave for Bengal, and Salim, taking advantage of his absence, broke out into revolt and marched away towards Agra and thence to Allahabad.⁴ In October 1603, Salim, who had received pardon, was again appointed to lead an expedition upon Mewar and was granted leave to depart for Ajmer. But he had hardly covered 20 miles when he betrayed disinclinationⁱⁿ to proceed further and made 'extravagant demands.' Akbar then allowed him to go to Allahabad to enjoy himself.⁵

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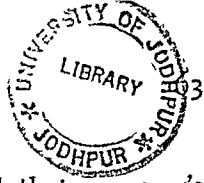
On October 15, 1605 A.D., emperor Akbar expired. By his frequent visits to Ajmer and making it the provincial capital, Akbar restored it to a high position. The status which had been accorded to Ajmer by him, remained for long time.

Jahangir

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During the early years of Jahangir's reign, campaigns were undertaken against Rana Amar Singh of Mewar. These having proved only partially successful, in 1612 A.D., Mirza Aziz Koka was sent at his own

1. Akbar the great Mogul by V. A. Smith, p. 181; Akbarnama Vol. II, p. 405.
2. Akbar the Great by A. L. Srivastava p. 393.
3. *ibid.* p. 359.
4. History of Jahangir by Beni Prasad, p. 37.
5. Akbarnama Vol. III, p. 822; Takmilā-i-Akbarnama by Inayatulla, as given in History of India as told by its own Historians by Elliot & Dowson, Vol. VI, p. 110.



request against the Rana.¹ Soon after he represented that emperor's presence near the scene of affairs was essential. Jahangir accepted his advice and in the autumn of 1613, set out for Ajmer.² He writes that he had two objects in view in visiting Ajmer "one, to pay a visit to the tomb of Khwaja Muin-ud-din Chishti, whose blessed influence had operated so powerfully on the fortunes of my dynasty. Second, to overcome and subjugate Amar Singh."³ On the request of Khan Azam, Jahangir appointed prince Khurram to the command of expedition. Early in 1614, he left the court with 12,000 cavalry. After the successful campaign and conclusion of the treaty with Mewar, Khurram and prince Karan, son of Rana Amar Singh returned to Ajmer.⁴

Jahangir stayed in Ajmer for three years. During this period, a daughter—Jahanara and two grand sons—Dara and Shuja were born to him.⁵ It was here that he received the English ambassador Sir Thomas Roe on January 10, 1616 A.D. and in October, prince Khurram received the title of Shah and paraded his army in the Public Hall of Audience, before leaving for Ahmadnagar. The Persian ambassador Muhammad Rizvi was also present on this occasion.⁶

As Jahangir's presence near the war theatre was deemed desirable, he left Ajmer on 10th November, 1616 for Mandu.⁷ His stay in Ajmer had been sufficiently long and happy. During this period, he visited the 'Mausoleum of the revered Khawaja' nine times, fifteen times he went to look at Pushkar lake and, to the Chashma-i-Nur, thirty-eight times.⁸ He also laid out Daulat Bag near Ana Sagar and built a few palaces of which 'the only remnant now standing is the masonry ruin by the side of the road leading from the embankment to the Kaiser Bagh, near where the surplus water of Anasagar emerges from under the road and trickles down to the culvert at the northern entrance to Daulat Bagh.'⁹ In the valley to the west of Taragarh, he built a delightful palace of which he has given a vivid description in his memoirs. It

1. Maasir-ul-Umara p. 329.

2. History of Jahangir by Beni Prasad, p. 203.

3. History of India as told by its own Historians Vol. VI, p. 334-35.

4. History of Jahangir by Beni Prasad, p. 203.

5. History of Jahangir by Beni Prasad, p. 15.

6. Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri (translated by Rogers and Beveridge) Vol. I, pp. 336-38; History of Jahangir by Beni Prasad, p. 213.

7. *ibid.* p. 231.

8. Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri (translated by Rogers & Beveridge), Vol. I, p. 341.

9. Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda, p. 63.

was ready in 1615 A.D. and named Chashma-i-Nur.¹ But inspite of the palaces and the mansions, and the gardens which had been laid out during the time of Jahangir and his father, Ajmer was still 'hardly fitted like Agra, Lahore or Delhi to form the metropolis of the Mughal Empire. A large number of houses were of mud and as Sir Thomas Roe describes,² heavy rains washed down considerable parts of the walls. But it may be noted that about this time in Delhi also, the number of kuccha houses was very large. While at Ajmer, Jahangir mostly resided in Akbar's palace and held with great regularity the *Jharokha* audience and the court. In the balcony in the west, he used to sit in judgement and in the ground below, criminals were executed and occasionally, in this plain, elephant fights were held.³

When Sir Roe visited Ajmer during the winters of 1615-16, he was received by one Mr. Edwards, who was an agent to the 'factory' at Surat. There were already a few Europeans living in Ajmer whose main task was to safeguard the trading interests of their countries against the machinations of rival European powers and the taxations of the local governors, particularly that of Surat. He also refers to some local Christians.

During Jahangir's time, the administrative set up in Ajmer remained unchanged. In fact, Akbar's arrangements had been so thorough that under his successors, we find only a slight change here and there in detail, but no basic departure from the course chartered by the great monarch, was attempted.

During Jahangir's time also, Merwara, which is a long and narrow tract of land with an area of about 650 square miles to the south and south-east of Ajmer, remained unsubjected. The mountaineous and unfertile area was covered with dense wild growth, and the inhabitants, the Mers, thrived on predatory raids which they conducted on all

1. *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri* (translated by Rogers & Beveridge) Vol. I, p. 269.

2. *Ajmer Historical and Descriptive* by H. B. Sarda p. 61; Roe refers to the town of Ajmer in rather unflattering terms in his letter to Lord Carew written on January 17, 1616—"But the king resideth in a lease old citie, wherein is no house but of mudde, not so great as a cottage on Hownsloheath; only by himself hath one of stone.. I shall be glad to doe your lordship service in England for this is the dullest, leasest place that I ever saw, and maketh me weary of speaking of it." The full text of the letter is given in "*The Embassy of Sir Thomas Roe to India*" Ed. by Sir William Foster.

3. *Ajmer Historical and Descriptive* by H. B. Sarda, p. 100-102.

sides.¹ They did not spare even the emperor whose camp they plundered when in A.D. 1616, he set out from Ajmer for Deccan, after three years of stay.² The history of Merwara during the Mughal period is but an incomplete record of the attempts of Mewar, Marwar, Amber and the Governor of Ajmer to subdue the Mers. These attempts failed, in as much as, their power could not be broken, though on a number of occasions, their villages were burnt and the Khan of Athoon was worsted.³

It was also during the early reign of Jahangir, that Kishan Singh, one of the sons of Mota Raja Udai Singh of Jodhpur founded the State of Kishangarh near Ajmer. Kishan Singh was born on 23 April, 1583 A.D. When he grew up, he enjoyed the imperial service and enjoyed Jahangir's favour.⁴ But on 26 May, 1615, when the emperor was at Pushkar, he was killed in an affray, in the dera of his brother, Maharaja Sur Singh. Jahangir has given details of the incident in his memoirs.⁵ The chief cause of the dispute was that Kishan Singh expected his brother to punish latter's *vakil* Govinddas, who had killed his nephew some time back. But the Maharaja was averse to inflict this punishment as Govinddas was a very able officer. On 28th May Kishan Singh vowed that he would kill the *vakil* that very night, whereupon his men entered the tent of Govinddas and killed him. Soon after Kishan Singh also arrived. By this time Sur Singh's men had woken up and they attacked the Kishangarh ruler and his band. In all 66 men lost their lives that night. In the morning Sur Singh found his brother, nephew and a number of his men lying dead.⁶

Kishan Singh was succeeded by his son Sahasmal. Though some of the Kishangarh rulers such as Raja Rup Singh (1658) and Raj Singh (1706-48 A.D.) played a role which was significant⁷ but its situation

1. For a detailed description of Merwara, see Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda p. 415-437; Col. Dixon's 'Sketch of Merwara'; and Thorton's Gazetteer (1850 A. D.)

2. Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda p. 420.

3. *ibid.* pp. 420-422.

4. Jodhpur Rajya Ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha, Vol. I, p. 363.

5. Tujuk-i-Jahangiri translated by Rogers and Beveridge Vol. I, p. 291-3; Jodhpur Rajya Ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. I p. 380-381.

6. *ibid.*

7. Rup Singh fought most bravely in the Battle of Samugarh on Dara's side and was killed. Raj Singh, during his long rule, successfully ruled over Kishangarh and took active part in the contemporary politics.

precluded its growth as a major State. On the west of it were Ajmer and Jodhpur, in the south were Bhinai and a few *Istimrardari* estates which enjoyed protection of Jodhpur and in the east, its path was barred by Amber. The Rathor rulers of Kishangarh remained loyal to the Mughal emperors and enjoyed their favour. But after Aurangzeb's death when the central power became weak they had to suffer at the hands of Marwar.

On 29th October, 1627, Jahangir died at Rajauri while returning to Lahore from Kashmir.¹ At this time Shah Jahan was in the far south at Junnar. He learnt of his father's death on November 18, 1627, and received the message of his father-in-law Asaf Khan, to hasten to the north. He marched via Ahmadabad, Gogunda and reached Ajmer on the 14th January, 1628, where he encamped on the Anasagar. He had already learnt of the defeat and capture of one of his brothers Shahriyar and protege of Nur Jahan Begam. Now, as his accession was definite, he went on foot to the shrine of Shaikh Muin-ud-din Chishti as thanks givings and ordered for the construction of a marble mosque in fulfilment of a vow he had taken at the time of Mewar campaign.² After appointing Mahabat Khan as Governor of Suba Ajmer, he resumed his march to Agra and was crowned³ there on Monday, February 4.

Shahjahan

A few years later, Shah Jahan ordered putting up a marble parapet on the 1240 feet long embankment of Anasagar and erection of five marble pavillions and *hammam* in their proximity. These were ready⁴ by 1637 A.D. Of the five pavillions, the third from the south is 46 feet long and is after the style of Diwan-i-Khas in the Delhi fort, though on a much modest scale. These buildings alongwith a few other built about this time in Ahmadabad, cost ten lacs of rupees.⁵

Shah Jahan visited Ajmer a number of times. He was here in 1643 A.D. as we learn from Munisul Arvah of Jahan Ara Begam⁶. In the 23rd year, informs the author of *Maasir-ul-Umara*, Ajmer became the abode of the king.⁷ We again find him leaving Delhi for Ajmer on September

1. History of Shahjahan of Dihli by Banarsi Prasad Saksena p. 56.

2. *ibid.* p. 62.

3. *ibid.* p. 63.

4. Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda p. 63.

5. *Maasir-ul-Umara* Vol. II p. 816.

6. Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda, p. 63.

7. *Maasir-ul-Umara* Vol. I, p. 366.

24, 1654 to conduct strategy against Mewar. The campaign was successfully accomplished and the emperor left Ajmer on November 14 for Agra. ¹ This was destined to be his last visit to this city.

During Shah Jahan's time, there remained perfect peace and stability in Ajmer Suba. The figures of the revenue return also showed increase and reached 42 crores, 5 lacs dams,² though to a considerable extent, this increase was due to the enhanced rate of revenue. In fact the golden period of Ajmer under the Mughals which commenced from Akbar's time ended with the departure of Shah Jahan. Under his successor, though Ajmer retained its importance, yet signs of serious decay had visibly set in. The days of peace, tranquility and stability were now over and Ajmer rapidly lost the eminent position which it enjoyed along with Agra, Delhi and Lahore on account of frequent sojourns of the Mughal emperors in this town.

The years 1657-59 A.D. were tragic for the Imperial house and the officers who served it. Shah Jahan's illness in 1657 A.D. led to war of succession among his four sons. Of the five³ severely contested battles which terminated the war, one was fought near Ajmer between 11-13 March, 1659 A.D. After losing the battles of Dharmat (15 April, 1658) and Samugarh (29 May, 1658) and having been hunted out of Panjab and Sindh, Dara had reached Ahmadabad. Here he received all help from the governor and his army swelled to about 25,000. His plan was to make a dash to Agra, as Aurangzeb was moving towards east to check Shuja's advance. Shuja was, however defeated, in the battle of Khajwah and Jaswant Singh, who had betrayed Aurangzeb⁴ the night before the battle, on reaching Jodhpur, invited Dara to capture Ajmer and promised to join him in this enterprise. Dara therefore, abandoned his intention to capture Agra and moved towards Ajmer. But to his great disappointment, Jaswant Singh, meanwhile, had been induced to remain neutral by the veiled threats and promises of Aurangzeb conveyed through Mirza Raja Jai Singh. This was serious set back to Dara but he decided to try his luck relying upon his own resources.⁵

1. History of Shahjahan of Dihli by Banarasi Prasad Saksena p. 320.

2. Majalisu-s-Salatin, translated by Elliot & Dowson in Vol. VII, p. 138.

3. These were the battles of Bahadurpur, Dharmat, Samugarh, Khajwah and Deorai.

4. J. N. Sarkar's History of Aurangzeb, Vol. II, p. 145

5. *ibid.* p. 169; History of India as told by its own Historians by Elliot & Dowson Vol. VII, p. 238-239.

Dewan Bahadur Har Bilas Sarda has given a graphic description of Dara's preparations and the details of the battle fought about four miles from Ajmer on the slopes of the hills of the Taragarh range and the ravine of Chashma.¹ Dara had entrenched himself in the pass of Deorai. His left flank rested on the rocks of Garh Vitli (Taragarh) and his right on the Kokla hill. His front was defended by a wall of massive masonry "a portion probably of the outer line of the fortifications of the ancient fortress city of Inderkot." Dara put his guns on this rampart and at different points in the valley. His front was now almost impregnable save where it was broken by the ravine of Chashma. Behind him lay the city of Ajmer from where he could draw his supplies. "In this all but impregnable position, he could await with some degree of confidence, in spite of his inferiority in numbers, the attack of his redoubtable enemy." Aurangzeb also arrived at Deorai and sent up his artillery forward to take up positions, opposite Dara's morchas

For three days there went on heavy cannonading and brave sallies by the besieged and persistent efforts on the part of the imperialists to break through Dara's defences. But on the third day, a flank attack on Kokla by the Jammu soldiery of Raja Ram Rup appeared to threaten Dara's rear and his line of retreat. Earlier Dilerkhan and his Afghans had succeeded in effecting a lodgement on the rampart along the southern boundary of the Chasma Valley. Even then the outcome of the battle was still hanging in a balance but, to Dara, these successes of the enemy appeared magnified and "in the gathering dusk he stole away leaving his unbeaten army to its fate."² Dara nervously retreated towards Ahmadabad and after sometime met a tragic end at the hands of Aurangzeb.

Aurangzeb

During the new emperor's long reign (1658-1707 A.D.) Ajmer did not witness any architectural activity and nothing was done which might have added beauty or charm of the place. But Ajmer was no exception; Aurangzeb's reign was singularly unproductive from cultural point of view. Ajmer Suba, however, retained its importance among the provinces of the Mughal empire. During the early period of Aurangzeb's reign, the total annual revenue of Ajmer Suba came to rupees 33 crores and 21 lakhs.³

1. Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda p. 157-165.

2. *ibid.* p. 164.

3. J. N. Sarkar's—Short History of Aurangzeb, p. 452.

This state of affairs lasted only till 1679 A.D. when the thirty year war between Rathors and Aurangzeb commenced. Between 1686-81 A.D., Mewar was also at war with the Mughals. The main reasons of the war were Aurangzeb's design to set aside the claim of Ajit Singh the posthumous son of Jaswant Singh¹ for the throne of Marwar and the provocation which Rana Raj Singh of Mewar had given him by sheltering the Rathors who had made a dramatic escape from Delhi on 15 July, 1679, to save the life of their young sovereign.² Raj Singh's other offence was that he had installed the idol of Lord Shri Nathji of Govardhan, at Sihar, henceforth, Nathdwara, when all other princes of Rajputana had showed their inability to receive the idol. By doing so, Raj Singh had ignored the general orders of the emperor issued on the 9th April, 1669 to demolish "all the schools and the temples of the Hindus and to put down their religious teaching and practice."³ On 2nd April, 1679, the hated Jizia was also imposed upon the Hindus, which the great Akbar had abolished in 1564 A.D. It was thought desirable that Mewar must also pay Jizia. Moreover, emperor did not think it desirable to allow any insubordination to grow in Ajmer Suba which had been for a long time, an extremely loyal region and which furnished a considerable part of the best soldiers and officers in the Mughal army.

After sending a letter demanding explanation from the Rana for "permitting Jaswant's family to come to his watan, when he should have sent that to the court after consoling the bereaved members"⁴ and without waiting for the reply, he commenced hostilities with Mewar and Marwar (August-September 1679). The thirty years war with Marwar had now begun.

One of the first battles of this war was for gaining control of Ajmer and was fought at Pushkar in August, 1679. Though the Rathors were able to destroy the army of the *faujdar* of Ajmer yet they had to retire to Jodhpur due to death of their leader Raj Singh. In November 1679 A.D., Aurangzeb himself came to Ajmer and made it the headquarters for military operations against Marwar and Mewar. Soon Rana and his subjects had to evacuate Udaipur and other low areas and to withdraw to the hills.⁵ Udaipur was occupied in January, 1680 and Chittoor was

1. For details, see Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II p. 477-488.

2. History of Aurangzeb by J. N. Sarkar Vol. III p. 339.

3. Udaipur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II p. 547.

4. Akhbar No. 1613 dated 4th Nov., 1679 (Jaipur Archives Records)

5. For the details of the war, see J. N. Sarkar's History of Aurangzeb, Vol. III, pp. 322-351. Aurangzeb had reached Ajmer on 25th September, 1679.

occupied at the end of February. After this success, Aurangzeb returned to Ajmer (22nd March) while prince Akbar was left to hold Chittor as a forward base. But after the emperor's return, the Rajput offensive began to tell upon the army under Akbar. In June, 1680, he was transferred to Marwar command. He reached Sojat by 18th July, reached Jhilmara by 22nd November and it was expected that Kumbhalmer, the last refuge of the Rana would also fall early. But meanwhile, Akbar had been won over by Rajputs who had convinced him of the wrong policies of his father and had promised to support him in wresting the crown from his father, in the hope that he would restore the wise policy of Akbar the great. Akbar, after considerable negotiations, agreed to crown¹ himself on 1st January, 1681 and set out towards Ajmer with his allies.

When news of the prince's rebellion reached Ajmer, Aurangzeb was completely taken aback. He found his position precarious as the armies and even his imperial body guards were away and his immediate retinue consisted merely of unserviceable soldiers, who with his personal attendants, clerks, and eunuchs, formed a total of less than ten thousand while rumour was that Akbar had an army of 70,000 men. Probably, Akbar and the Rajputs were not aware of the weak position of the emperor and they marched with undue caution covering 120 miles in a fortnight.² The delay proved fatal for the prince as by the time he arrived near Ajmer, a number of nobles with their contingents had joined Aurangzeb raising his strength to 16,000 men. He had also put the 'palace at Ajmer in a posture of defence, the passes leading to the city had been fortified and guns had been placed at strategic places.³ On 14th January, 1681, he moved out of Ajmer and encamped six miles to the south on the field of Deorai, which had proved fortunate for him in the fight against Dara. On the 15th January Aurangzeb advanced 4 miles further south and reached Doraha. Akbar also advanced and arrived at a place about three miles from his father's position. On the following day, the battle was to commence. But during the night, Akbar's right hand man Tahawwar Khan went away to the other side, only to meet a tragic end. Also, by a forged letter, Aurangzeb succeeded in creating suspicion in the mind of the Rathors, who suspecting foul play on the part of Akbar, left him sleeping and hastily withdrew to-

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1. For details, see History of Aurangzeb by J. N. Sarkar, Vol. III, p. 353-373, Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II, pp. 493-495.
 2. Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II, pp. 495.
 3. History of Aurangzeb by J. N. Sarkar, Vol. III, pp. 359-360.

wards Marwar.¹ On waking up, Akbar saw that he was ruined, but managed to join Durgadass, who chivalrously took him safely to the court of Shambhaji, thus creating a new threat in the south.² Aurangzeb therefore, thought it wise to end the war and concluded treaty with Mewar.³ The war with Marwar, however, continued up to his death on 20th February, 1707 A.D.

Thus during a major part of Aurangzeb's reign, Ajmer Suba remained in a disturbed condition. The constant warfare affected not only the administration but also life of the common man in Sarkar Ajmer. The crops were damaged, towns and villages ravaged and things remained in a state of turmoil. The civil administration which concerns the people in general, was seriously affected and the intermittent wars produced a climate of insecurity and sapped the strength of the administrative machinery. The good old days of Akbar, Jahangir, and Shah Jahan now became a memory for the people.

Later Mughals

After Aurangzeb's death in February, 1707 A.D. a severe battle was fought on 18th June, 1707 between two of his sons Muazzam and Azam in which the former was victorious.⁴ He crowned himself as Bahadur Shah, near Agra, in June 1707, and soon afterwards, set out for Deccan via Ajmer, where the third son of Aurangzeb, Kambaksh, had declared independence.⁵ He also decided to examine the situation in Rajputana and take necessary steps, on his way to Deccan. He started on 2nd November, 1707 and reached Amber⁶ in the beginning of January 1708. As Sawai Jai Singh of Amber had fought on Azam's side in the battle of Jaju and had come over to his side only when he saw that Azam Shah was losing,⁷ it was decided to resume Amber and confer it upon Bijai Singh, the younger brother of Sawai Jai Singh, as he had been loyal to Bahadur Shah throughout the war of succession. Amber was, therefore, resumed pending the settlement of the claim of Bijai Singh to the State.⁸ When the emperor arrived near Ajmer, he

1. For details, see History of Aurangzeb by J. N. Sarkar, Vol III pp. 360-366, Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha, Vol. II, p. 495-96.

2. Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha, Vol. II, p. 497.

3. History of Aurangzeb by J. N. Sarkar, Vol. III, 370.
Udaipur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II, p. 588.

4. Later Mughals by W. Irvine, Vol. I, pp. 22-33.

5. *ibid.* pp. 41-50.

6. Akhbar of 17 Shaban and 22 Shawwal, 1119 H. (J. S. A.).

7. Later Mughals by W. Irvine, Vol. I, p. 31.

8. *ibid* p. 46 Akhbar dated 18th February, 1708, Jaipur State Archives.

while the two Rajput rulers went away to Pushkar for parva bathing and after a stay of about a month, retired to their respective states.¹

On 27th June, emperor left Ajmer for Panjab to take punitive measures against the Sikhs. During this period Ajit Singh attacked Kishangarh. Raj Bahadur, son of Man Singh, had ascended the gaddi of Kishangarh in A.D. 1706 after the death of his father at Patan. For some reasons, he was not well disposed towards Jodhpur and had been sending discrediting reports to the emperor about Ajit Singh. Ajit Singh attacked Kishangarh and after planting his flag there, went to Rupnagar and engaged Raj Bahadur. The battle lasted for four days, after which Kishangarh ruler submitted.²

Bahadur Shah's death at Lahore led to a war of succession there, out of which Jahandar Shah, one of the sons of the emperor, emerged victorious.³ He entered Delhi on 22nd June, 1710 but soon after was defeated by his nephew Farrukhsiyar near Agra and a few days later was put to death.⁴

On 12th January, 1713, Farrukhsiyar was enthroned near Agra. In the list of the fresh appointments made by the new emperor, we note that Ajmer was made over to Sayyid Muzaffar Khan Barha, the maternal uncle of the chief minister Qutb-ul-mulk Sayyid Abdulla Khan.⁵

Ajit Singh of Jodhpur

Taking advantage of the confusion which followed Bahadur Shah's death, Ajit Singh of Jodhpur had taken possession of Ajmer. In the beginning Farrukhsiyar himself wanted to conduct the campaign against Ajit Singh but later, decided to send Bakshi-ul-mulk Husain Ali Khan. By this time, relations between the Saiyyad brothers and the emperor had been considerably estranged and it was thought that besides the hazards involved, this would separate the two brothers for some time, allowing the emperor and his supporters better opportunities to overthrow them.⁶ It is said that a secret message had been sent to Ajit

1. Later Mughals by W. Irvine, Vol. I, p. 73; Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II, p. 549.

2. Vir Vinod. p. 840.

3. For details, see Later Mughals by W. Irvine, Vol. I, pp. 158-185.

4. *ibid.* pp. 186, 198-201, 229-244.

5. Later Mughals by W. Irvine Vol. I, p. 261.

6. *ibid.* pp. 285, 286; Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II, p. 557.

Singh to do away with Hussain Ali Khan in any way he could for which service he was promised rich awards.¹

Hussain Ali set out from Delhi in the second week of January 1713. A large number of prominent officers accompanied him including Raja Raj Bahadur of Rupangarh. They did not encounter any opposition from the Rathor army which was reported to be lying in ambush 24 miles south of Sambhar,² and after destroying the shrine at Sanamgarh in parganah Sambhar, the Saiyyad encamped on the banks of Anasagar. After some time, he moved on to Pushkar and thence to Merta, about forty miles further on. In the country around Ajmer, the deserted villages belonging to Jodhpur were burnt, while those belonging to Amber State were left unharmed. "The country was thus settled and brought under Imperial rule step by step, as the army moved forward."³ Ajit Singh, meanwhile, had retreated from his position south of Sambhar and had withdrawn to Jodhpur, but when he found that the Saiyyad was earnest and would not stop at Merta, he started negotiations. It was agreed that Ajit Singh would give his daughter in marriage to Farukhsiyar and send his son Abhai Singh with Saiyyad Hussain Ali, to the court. Hussain Ali stayed at Ajmer for two months and restored broken arrangements.⁴

In June 1717, Saiyyad Muzaffar Khan Khan-i-Jahan, governor of Ajmer, was ordered to proceed to the Jat stronghold of Thun, then besieged by Sawai Jai Singh. The Kachwaha prince did not like his arrival, for he was a man of the Saiyyads, but had to tolerate his interference.⁵

In A.D. 1719, the intrigues of the Saiyyad resulted in the deposition and murder of the king. The Saiyyads placed Raffiuddarjah, and later Raffiuddaula, on the throne. Both, however, died within a few months and on 20th September, 1719, the Saiyyad placed another grandson of Bahadur Shah, the fourth to occupy the throne in this very year, under the title of Muhammad Shah.⁶ As Ajit Singh of Jodhpur

1. Later Mughals by W Irvine Vol. I, p. 286; Vir Vinod, p. 1135.

2. *ibid.*; Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha, Vol. II, p. 557.

3. For details, see Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha, Vol. II, p. 557-559; Later Mughals by W. Irvine, Vol. I, pp. 285-90.

4. Later Mughals by W. Irvine, Vol. I, p. 290.

5. *ibid.* p. 325.

6. History of India as told by its own Historians by Elliot & Dowson Vol. VII, p. 471-485.

had been a dominant member of the Saiyyad group, he was granted the government of Suba Ajmer (5th November, 1719). He already held Suba of Ahmadabad.¹

But the assassination of Saiyyad Hussain Ali Khan on 8th October, 1720 near Toda Bhim was a fatal blow to the Saiyyad group and the defeat and capture (14th November, 1720) of Qutb-ul-Mulk Abdulla Khan, completed their ruin. Raja Ajit Singh, however, refused to recognize the change and forbade slaughter of cows in the provinces of Ajmer and Ahmadabad.²

It was therefore, decided to deprive him of the two provinces and on 12th October, 1721, Saiyyad Muzaffar Ali Khan was appointed to the government of Ajmer and Haider Quli Khan to that of Ahmadabad.³ By the time, Muzaffar Ali Khan reached Manoharpur (130 miles north east of Ajmer), he had collected 20,000 men under him, but as Ajit Singh showed no signs of withdrawing and his son Abhai Singh was likely to check the advance of the Imperial army, Muzaffar Ali was asked (2nd October, 1721) not to advance further.⁴ He remained there for three months and as he had spent all his money, his forces got out of control and set about ravaging the neighbouring area. Soon his men dispersed without seeking his permission and Muzaffar Ali, after reaching Amber, sent away all he had to the court and turned a mendicant. Saiyyad Nusratyar Khan Barha was then appointed as the new governor of Suba Ajmer.⁵

Meanwhile, Ajit Singh, after leaving Ajmer, had started offensive on a large scale. His son Abhai Singh attacked Narnol and other places in the Subas of Agra and Delhi as well as Alwar, Tijara, Shahjahanpur and reached even up to Sarai Allahwardi Khan about 16 miles from Delhi.⁶

At the capital, no officer was willing to proceed against Ajit Singh and it was with considerable difficulty that at last, Nusratyar Khan was found agreeable to undertake this task. He had covered only a few sta-

1. Later Mughals by W. Irvine, Vol. II, p. 4.

2. History of India as told by its own Historians by Elliot and Dowson, Vol. VII, p. 503, 515, 517, Later Mughals by W. Irvine Vol. II, pp. 58, 89.

3. Later Mughals by W. Irvine Vol. II p. 108.

4. *ibid.* p. 109-10.

5. *ibid.*

6. *ibid.* p. 111.

ges when news arrived that Ajit Singh had evacuated Ajmer. Probably, the reason was that Nizam-ul-Mulk, the new wazir was coming to take charge and had reached near Delhi or because Ajit Singh felt that submission might help him in retaining at least one of the Subas.¹

Ajit Singh's *arzadasht* reached emperor on 21st May, 1722. Professing loyalty, he wrote that Muzaffar Ali Khan never reached Ajmer otherwise he would have handed him over the charge, and that his raids were on account of his quarrel with² the Mewatis and were not directed against the Mughal government. This tardy submission was accepted and he was allowed to retain government of Ajmer Suba, but Nahar Khan, the former *faujdar* of Sambhar was now appointed Diwan in the Suba.

These appointments were not liked by Ajit Singh who probably saw in these appointments government's intention to curb his freedom and to keep a close eye upon him. On 6th January, 1723, therefore, he got Nahar Khan and Ruhulla Khan assassinated at Ajmer. The Rathors plundered the camp and beheaded 25 other men of Nahar Khan.³

This necessitated a campaign against Ajit Singh⁴ Sharf-ud-daula Iradatmand Khan was appointed to the command in February 1723. On 4th April, Sawai Jai Singh, Muhammad Khan Bangash, Raja Girdhar Bahadur and other high ranking nobles, who had been busy in the Jat campaign, were directed to join the army which already had 50,000 horse. Soon after Haidar Quli Khan was appointed to the government of Ajmer and *faujdar* of Sambhar and he joined the Imperial army at Narnol. The Imperialists marched slowly reaching Sambhar at the end of May and on 8th June, the new governor arrived at Ajmer from where Ajit Singh and his family had withdrawn leaving Amar Singh, the thakur of Nimaj and Vijai Singh, son of Khim Singh Bhandari, in-charge of the city. After a siege lasting about one month, terms were settled for the evacuation of the fort, through the efforts of Sawai Jai Singh and the garrison 'marched out with the honours of war, flags flying and drums beating.'⁵ Soon after Ajit Singh submitted. Haidar Quli Khan did not stay in Ajmer Suba and was recalled to the court

1. Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha, Vol. II pp. 593-94.

2. Later Mughals by W. Irvine Vol. II, p. 111.

3. *ibid.* p. 112.

4. For details, see Later Mughals by W. Irvine, Vol. II, pp. 113-114; Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II, pp. 597-98.

5. Maharana's letter to Sawai Jai Singh dated *Bhadon Vadi* 9, S. 1780 (J.S.A.) Later Mughals by W. Irvine Vol. II, p. 114.

on 30th December, 1724, being replaced¹ by Hussain Khan Barha (April, 1725). The same year Saiyyad Hussain Khan was replaced by Najmuddin Ali Khan, younger brother of Saiyyad Abdulla Khan and the latter was directed to join Sarbuland Khan, who was likely to face resistance in taking over charge of Suba Ahmadabad from Hamid Khan, the deputy-governor of that province. Najmuddin Ali Khan accompanied Sarbuland Khan, who passed via Ajmer on his way to Gujarat, but, later on, differences grew between the two and in the middle of A.D. 1728, the Saiyyad returned to Ajmer from where he was transferred to Gwalior.²

By this time, political conditions in India had undergone considerable changes. The power and prestige of the Mughal emperor had considerably declined and the Marathas were fast emerging as an irresistible force. Among the States of Rajputana, Jodhpur and Jaipur had become very powerful and their rulers were much more influential and commanded far greater resources than the Mughal Subedar of Ajmer. This is clear from the frequent clashes between Jodhpur and Bikaner and the installation of Jai Singh's protege on the Bundi throne in 1729 A.D. In fact, the governor of Suba Ajmer found himself helpless to interfere in the happenings in which much more powerful and influential personalities holding governments of Subas of Malwa, Agra or Gujarat, were the main characters and who carried enough weight to influence even the policies of the central government and cared little for the provincial authority. For these reasons, Ajmer also lost its previous exalted position and was no longer the hub of activities.

By 1733 A.D., Maratha policy of northward march had met considerable success. They had overrun the whole of Malwa and Gujarat and between 1733-34, they spread themselves with unprecedented boldness from Gwalior to Ajmer, threatening every state of Rajputana. Though Jai Singh hastened to face them, he had to purchase their withdrawal by paying rupees three lacs.³ This very year the Marathas penetrated up to Marwar and Malhar Rao Holkar plundered Ajmer and the neighbouring areas. It was obvious that Marathâ hold was gradually tightening over Ajmer Suba. In A.D. 1737, Baji Rao passed via Ajmer while returning from his famous raid upon Delhi.⁴

1. *Measir-ul-Umara* Vol. I, p. 602; *Later Mughals* by W. Irvine Vol. II, p. 114.

2. *Later Mughals* by W. Irvine Vol. II, pp. 185, 192.

3. *ibid.* p. 278.

4. *ibid.* p. 297.

The condition of the Mughal government was deteriorating fast and its hollowness was exposed by Nadir Shah's invasion¹ of 1739 A.D. While at Delhi, Nadir Shah expressed his intention to make pilgrimage to the shrine of Shaikh Muin-ud-din Chishti, probably his real intention was to spoliage the Rajput States.² But fortunately he changed his mind, though Jai Singh had sent away his family to Udaipur as a precautionary measure. If Nadir Shah had come to Ajmer, probably Jaipur would have suffered most, as it lay on the road to Ajmer.

Maharaja Abhai Singh

It appears that by 1740 A.D., Sawai Jai Singh had made up his mind to bring the neighbouring *thikanas* under his sphere of influence. This was surely to be resisted by Jodhpur. In 1740, Abhai Singh of Jodhpur again invaded Bikaner. At this time, Bakht Singh was not on good terms with his brother Abhai and he decided to help the Bikaner ruler. He sent a man to Jai Singh asking him to come to the relief of the besieged friend Zorawar Singh. Jai Singh sent an advance force of 20,000 under his prime minister and himself set out with a large force against the Jodhpur ruler. At Jai Singh's request, army of Mewar also proceeded towards Ajmer on the pretext of visiting Pushkar.³ Abhai raised the siege and had to make peace with Jai Singh on 25th July, 1740. One of the terms read that Abhai Singh would not interfere in the *parganahs* of Bhinai, Kekri, Rajgarh, Parvatsar, Pisangan, Saroth, Bamvali, Bherundo, Harsor, Deo Gaon, Ramsar, Masuda, Toseno, Dhavli, Piplad, Sambhar and Didwana.⁴ A few other terms of the treaty were also harsh and touched pride of Bakht Singh, who rejoined his brother Abhai Singh to take revenge for the insult to the Rathors.

At this time, Jai Singh was at Gangwana, 11 miles north east of Pushkar, on his way to Jaipur. Bakht Singh with only 5,000 horsemen attacked Amber forces numbering 50,000. He charged the enemy with matchless impetuosity, but had to retire towards Nagor after receiving two wounds and with only seventy survivors of his heroic band of five thousand. It was a brief but memorable battle and though it could not alter the terms imposed by Jai Singh upon Abhai Singh, it established Bakhta's reputation as one of the most courageous princes of his time.⁵

1. Later Mughals by W. Irvine Vol. II, p. 364

2. *ibid.*, p. 374

3. Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II, pp. 650-655

4. Kapatdwara document No. 46 K/1094 dated 25th July, 1740, Jaipur State Archives.

5. Jodhpur Rajya ka Itihas by G. H. Ojha Vol. II, pp. 657-58; Bakht Singh's letter to Durjan Sal dt. 13th April, 1741 A.D. (J.S.A.); Kapatdwara document No. 1/6, 105 entry dt. *Asoj Vadi* 9, S 1798, (J.S.A.)

These *parganahs* of Sarkar Ajmer remained under Amber up to Sawai Jai Singh's death on 21st September, 1743. But after his death, Abhai Singh is reported to have sent a force under the thakur of Alniawas and Bahadur Singh, son of the Rupangarh ruler, and established his hold over Ajmer and Rajgarh. Abhai Singh died in Ajmer on 21st June, 1749 and was cremated at Pushkar.

On Abhai's death, the government of Suba Ajmer was bestowed upon Salabat Khan.¹ By this time, the states of Rajputana had virtually become independent and did not even care to deposit the *mataliba* in the Suba treasury. Without the necessary finances, Mughal administration in Rajputana existed in name. Mughal officers were stationed only at Ajmer and Ranthambhor. The entire administration broke down and the Mughal governor found himself powerless to exercise control over the rulers of the various states or to prevent increasing Maratha incursion in this region.

Bakht Singh

Bakht Singh of Nagaur persuaded Salabat Khan to assist him to secure Jodhpur from Ram Singh. Consequently, a battle ensued at Chursiawas (near Merta) on October 19, 1749 A.D. However, Ram Singh bribed Salabat Khan and peace was purchased. But Bakht Singh was restless and in 1751 A.D., he overpowered Ram Singh, became ruler of Marwar and distributed the territories thus gained among his followers. Ramsar and Srinagar (parts of Ajmer) formed the reward for Bahadur Singh of Rupangarh.

Ram Singh occupied Maroth and Sambhar. Later, at the instance of Ram Singh's request, Holkar Malhar Rao sent Sahaba Patel with ten thousand troops for his succour. Ram Singh assisted by Mertia Rajputs and Sahaba, attacked Ajmer and buried Amar Singh Gor alive. Bakht Singh who was at Alniawas, resorted to stratagem and sent letters in the enemy's camp, thus causing suspicion among Ram Singh's followers. But the treachery was soon discovered. Bakht Singh took² Ajmer in 1752. Soon thereafter, he was poisoned at Sonali³ on 21st December, 1752, though J. N. Sarkar mentions that he died at Sindholiya on 23rd September, 1752.

1. Ajmer Historical and Descriptive by H. B. Sarda p. 190.

2. Fall of the Mughal Empire Vol. II, p. 317 by J. N. Sarkar.

3. Ajmer Historical & Descriptive by H. B. Sarda, p. 191.

He was succeeded by his son Bijay Singh and Ajmer remained with Marwar till 1756 A.D. A civil war soon broke out between Ram Singh and Bijai Singh, the former secured the favour of Maratha Jai Appa Scindia who was at Ujjain then. The combined forces of the Scindia and Jaipur along with the followers of Ram Singh captured Ajmer and placed Pandit Ram Karan Pancholi (on behalf of Ram Singh) and Govind Rao (on behalf of Scindia) as administrators. Bijay Singh was asked to surrender Marwar but he remained firm and reinforced by the armies of Kishangarh and Bikaner, encountered the enemy near Merta. A well contested battle took place and Bijaya Singh was near victory when false rumours of his being killed resulted in the dwindling away of his followers. Thus left alone, he fled to Nagaur. However, after the assassination of Jai Appa Scindia, peace was concluded in 1756 A.D. and till 1758, the city of Ajmer was governed jointly by Marathas and Ram Singh. Merta, Parbatsar, Maroth, Sojat, Jalore, Bhinai, Kekri, Deolia with 16 villages and Masuda with 27 villages remained with Ram Singh. A large number of elephants and a huge sum in cash was given to the Marathas. After two years, Maratha subedar Govind Rao started exercising full sovereignty over Ajmer. Once he was imprisoned in a fort by the Istimrars of Ajmer because of his strict attitude but was soon released.

In 1761 A.D., Bijay Singh sent a force under Baloo Joshi against Ajmer but it was unsuccessful. A second force met with greater success. The governor of Ajmer fought for a while but soon retired to the hill fort Garh Vitli and the city was occupied by Bijaya Singh. Meanwhile, Madhoji Scindia got intelligence of the debacle and marched towards Ajmer. Baloo Joshi raised the siege and moved to Bhaonta. During the firing, "the Udawat, the Surtanot and the Keshadasot Sardars went over to the Scindia and told him that they would arrest Baloo Joshi at midnight."¹ The conspiracy filtered to Baloo and he fled to Merta. Scindia exercised full powers on the city of Ajmer from 1761 to 1787.

With a view to augment their power, Marathas raided Jaipur in 1787 A.D. but were repulsed by the combined forces of Jodhpur and Jaipur at Tunga. Scindia fled to Agra. The city of Ajmer was taken by Bhinraj Singh, who commanded the Rathor forces at Tunga. Mirza Anwar Beg, the Scindia's governor at Ajmer was besieged at Garh Vitli. Reinforcements were called from Nagaur and Jalore and the Rathors drove out Mirza Beg from Ajmer and annulled their tributary engagements with Marathas.

1. Ajmer Historical & Descriptive by H. B. Sarda p. 194.

In 1790, a punitive expedition was made by the Marathas under Madhaji Scindia and General De Boigne. "On the 21st August, 1791, he [De Boigne] arrived under the walls (of Ajmer city); the next day the town was taken and the fort invested. The citadel, however, had been provisioned for a year and was defended by numerous garrison. After 17 days' operations De Boigne, converting the siege into a blockade, marched with greater part of his troops against the Rajputs who had assembled on the plains of Merta." ¹ The Marwar forces met a debacle at Merta. A peace treaty was concluded according to which Ajmer was handed over to Marathas by the then governor Singhi Dhanraj. It was bestowed by the Scindia to his commander-in-chief Lakwa Dada. In 1791 A.D., Sivaji Nana was made the subedar of Ajmer. In 1800 A.D. Lakwa Dada rebelled and was subdued by Major Louis Bourguien in 1801 A.D. In the same year Mons. Perron became the subedar of Ajmer and appointed Mr. Low as administrator of the district.

An abortive attempt was made by Maharaja Bheem Singh of Jodhpur in 1802 A.D. to recover Ajmer. The war between the British government and Scindia provided opportunity to Marwar to establish outposts in the district which, however, lasted only till 1806 A.D. This area remained in the possession of Marathas till it was ceded to the British government by Daulat Rao Scindia by a treaty concluded on June 25th, 1818 (see Appendix I at the end of Chapter X). General D. Ochterlony occupied the city on 28th July, 1818 when Mr. Wilder, the first Superintendent of Ajmer, received charge of the district from Bapu Scindia, the last Maratha subedar. Soon after, on November 20th, 1818 A.D. a cantonment 14 miles away from Ajmer was set up and was named Nasirabad.

In the same year (1818 A.D.) a treaty of perpetual friendship and alliance and unity of interest was concluded with Maharaja Kalian Singh of Kishangarh State, (now forming a part of Ajmer district) containing the usual conditions of protection on the part of the British Government and sub-ordinate co-operation and abstinence from political correspondence on the part of the ruler (See Appendix VIII at the end of Chapter X). The founder of this state, Kishan Singh, was the second son of Maharaja Udai Singh of Jodhpur.

BRITISH PERIOD

"The History of Ajmer from 1818 is the history of its administration. The long roll of battles and sieges is closed. The district, worn out

1. Rajputana District Gazetteer, Vol. I—A 1904 p. 12.

by the incessant warfare of half a century, at length enjoys rest, and the massive battlements of Taragarh begin to crumble in a secure peace. Mr. Wilder and his successors worked hard to improve the condition of the people and the long incumbency of Colonel Dixon, who took charge of the district in 1842 in addition to Merwara, was productive of much good."¹

It would be relevant here to dwell upon the history of Merwara. The history of Merwara before the occupation of Ajmer by the British authorities in 1818, is practically a blank. Hardly anything was known of the territory except that it was a difficult, hilly tract inhabited by an independent and plundering race, who cared not for agriculture and who supplied their wants at the expense of the surrounding territories. Sawai Jai Singh of Jaipur had penetrated no further than Jhak in an endeavour to subdue the country and Amir Khan had failed in an attempt to chastise the plunderers of Jhak and Chang. Mr. Wilder, the first Superintendent of Ajmer, entered into an agreement with the villages of Jhak, Shamgarh, Lulwa, Kana Dhera and Kheta Khera, binding them to abstain from plunder. The pledge, however, was respected little, or could not really be enforced by the headmen and in March 1819 a force was detached from Nasirabad for the attachment of these places. No opposition was encountered, the villages were taken one after the other, and all levelled to the ground. The inhabitants escaped into the adjacent hills. Strong police posts were stationed at Jhak, Shamgarh and Lulwa.²

1. Rajputana District Gazetteer Vol. I-A 1904 p. 12. However, Mr. La Touche writes about him in his settlement Report: "In the middle of the famine year 1824 A. D. he was promoted to the charge of the Saugor and Narbada territories. His six years' administration was not productive of any great results. He made no radical inquiry into any of the institutions of the province. He called all the Instimrardars of Ajmer and the Thakurs of Athoon, Shamgarh and Jhak and assured them of protection. He continued many old abuses both in the Customs and the Revenue Departments, simply because they brought in money. It cannot be said that he took much pains to ascertain the value of the land he assessed or the condition of the people, and the era of material improvement had not yet dawned. He united in his person the offices of Superintendent of Ajmer, and of Political Agent for Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Kishangarh and kept up a semi-royal state with elephants, horsemen and chobdars. On the other hand, his administration was rather starved. The whole cost of the Revenue and Police establishment of the district was Rs. 1,374 a month, or less than half of Mr. Wilder's salary, which was Rs. 3,000. There was not a copy of any Regulation in the office in 1823, and a copy of the Calcutta Gazette was refused."

2. *ibid.* p. 13.

The above description of the area (Merwara) given in the old gazetteer, is not wholly correct because we get stray references of the people (Mers) inhabiting the region. The Mers claim to be the off-spring of a son of Prithviraj of Ajmer from a girl of Mina tribe. The two sons—Anhal and Anup—born out of this conjugal relationship, settled at village Chang near Beawar. There are others who claim descentance from Dharanath Paramara, the founder of Dharanagar in Marwar before the advent of Rathors. With the passage of time, there appeared numerous divisions and sub-divisions in the clan and some of them embraced Islam.

In 1195 A.D. when Qutb-ud-din Aibak advanced against Anhilwarapatan, the Mers assisted the Rajputs of Gujarat to rebuff him. Later, Hammira of Ranthambhor took Chang and Badnor (former Varthanpura) between 1285 and 1290 A.D. By the time of Maharana Lakha of Mewar, Badnor was incorporated in Mewar. In 1616, these turbulent people plundered the camp of Jahangir. "In 1632 A.D. (S. 1689) Maharaja Gaj Singh of Jodhpur sent his minister Muhnot Nainsi, the famous annalist of Marwar, on a punitive expedition against the Mers, as they had plundered some Marwari villages. Muhnot Nainsi burnt fifteen villages of the Mers and returned to Jodhpur. In 1645 A.D., Muhnot, minister of Maharaja Jaswant Singh, again attacked Merwara and burnt the villages of Kukda, Kot Kirana and others to punish Rawat Narain. Later, when Emperor Aurangzeb, having failed in his attempt to conquer Mewar, was on his way to Deccan to meet the advancing forces of the Mahrattas on 7th March, 1679 A.D., the Mers harassed his army and inflicted severe losses on it."¹

Intermittent conflicts arose between the Mers and the adjacent territories of Mewar and Marwar. Several attempts were made to subdue these predatory hordes but none succeeded to cripple them permanently till the occupation of Ajmer by Britishers.

In November, 1820 a general insurrection broke out. The police posts were cut off and the men composing them were killed. The thorough subjugation of the country was then determined on. A force re-took Jhak, Lulwa, and Shamgarh, and after some correspondence with the governments of Udaipur and Jodhpur and after co-operation promised on their part, the force advanced into Mewar and Marwar-Merwara to punish the refugees of Jhak, Lulwa, and Shamgarh, and the men who had given them an asylum.

Borwa was the first village of which possession was taken, and the attack was then directed against Hathun, where a repulse was sustained with a loss of three killed and twenty three wounded. In the night, however, the garrison evacuated the fort. The troops then marched on Barar and took it after slight resistance. The capture of Mandlan and Barsawara followed and a strong detachment was then sent against Kot-Kirana and Bagri in Marwar-Merwara. These were taken and made over to Jodhpur and the reverses of the Mers reached culminating point in the capture of Ramgarh, whither most of their chief men had retreated. These were nearly all killed or wounded or taken prisoners and the remaining strongholds submitted in rapid succession. A detachment of cavalry and infantry was left at Jhak, and the main body withdrew at the close of January, 1821, the campaign having lasted three months. Captain Tod,¹ in the name of Rana, undertook the administration of the portion belonging to Mewar. He appointed a governor, built the fort of Todgarh in the centre of the tract, raised a corps of 600 matchlock men for this special service and began to collect revenue. A different policy was pursued by the court of Jodhpur. The villages which belonged to Marwar were made over to the adjoining Thakurs; there was no controlling authority and no unity of administration. Ajmer brought all its share under direct management, but at first, the Thakurs of Masuda and Kharwa were held responsible for the establishment of border, under the superintendence of Mr. Wilder. It soon appeared that this triple government was no government: the criminals of one portion found security in another; the country became infested with murderous gangs, and the state of Merwara was even worse than before the conquest. In these circumstances, it was determined that the three portions should be brought under the management of one officer, vested with full authority in civil and criminal matters, and that a battalion of 8 companies of 70 men each should be enrolled from among the Mers.²

In May, 1823 A.D., a treaty was concluded between the ruler of Udaipur and the British Government by which the management of Mewar-Merwara was given to the British Government for a period of ten years and the Rana agreed to pay Rs. 15,000 a year to cover civil and military expenses. Colonel Hall was appointed superintendent of Merwara who remained there from 1823 to 1836 A.D.

Mr. Henry Middleton succeeded Mr. Wilder in Ajmer in December, 1824 A.D. After him Mr. Cavandish took over charge in 1827. He

1. Civil Disturbances during the British rule in India [1765-1857] by S. B. Chaudhuri.

2. Rajputana District Gazetteer Vol. I-A 1904 p. 14.

the country was due. Another important factor in the civilization of the people was the Merwara Battalion which was raised in 1822. By service in its ranks the wild mountaineers became brave and disciplined soldiers, and when they returned home they carried the leaven of law-abiding order into the villages."¹

"In March 1833, the arrangement with Mewar was continued for a further period of eight years, the Rana agreeing to pay Rs. 20,000 Chitori or Rs. 16,000 Kaldar on account of expenses. On the 23rd October, 1835, the arrangement with Marwar was extended for a further period of nine years. The transfer of Jodhpur territory was only partial, and many villages were left in the hands of the bordering Thakurs, though nominally under the police superintendence of the British authorities. Twenty villages were made over by the first treaty and by the second treaty some were added, but these latter were returned to Marwar in 1842. About this year the agreements of 1833 and 1835 expired, and it became necessary to make further arrangements for their continuance. The Udaipur Durbar expressed its willingness to allow its villages to remain under British management so long as it might suit the convenience of the British Government, and the Jodhpur Durbar expressed its readiness to do the same. But no arrangements were executed, and although an effort was made to procure the perpetual cession of their shares from the respective Durbars, it was unsuccessful."²

In 1835, General Hall resigned due to ill health and Capt. Dixon succeeded him as the Superintendent of Merwara. In 1836, Merwara was also put under N.W.P. Government. In Ajmer, Mr. Edmundstone was succeeded by Lt. Macnaughten and the latter by Col. Sutherland.

In 1842, Col. Dixon took over the administration of Ajmer and ruled the combined districts of Ajmer and Merwara until his death in 1857. "He is still, and deservedly, remembered by the Merwara people as their greatest benefactor. His administration was remarkable for the large number of tanks which were built in Merwara for irrigation purposes, and they were all entirely due to his personal energy and enthusiasm. Their good effect can hardly be over-estimated. Agriculture became possible and profitable, and the area under cultivation increased rapidly. In order to make the people obtain the benefits of their industry and to attract traders to Merwara, Colonel Dixon founded the walled

1. Rajputana District Gazetteer, Vol. I-A, 1904 p. 16.

2. *ibid.* p. 15.

town of Nayanagar, or Beawar, in 1835. Mahajans flocked to it; the enterprise was at once successful; and the place is now the commercial and administrative capital of the district. The founder is probably the latest Englishman who has built a 'fenced city'. Before he died he had the satisfaction of seeing around him a people whose wants had been supplied, whose grievances had been redressed, and who were described as being 'most prosperous and highly favoured.'¹

Col. Sutherland was said to be most popular in Ajmer because of his liberal attitude. Mr. La Touche speaks about him thus: "From the date of his assuming charge, a new era—one of prosperity—commences in the history of the administration of the country. Old tanks were repaired and new ones constructed at an expense of 4,52,707/-. Both Major Dixon and Col. Sutherland wanted to reduce the rate of revenue one third, but Government refused to sanction this. It was, however, reduced from one half to two fifths."²

Upheaval of 1857

It has already been mentioned that a cantonment was set up at Nasirabad. The unrest that had spread in the army in other parts of the country soon reached here. Afraid of a possible uprising in the native forces, the Agent to the Governor-General issued a proclamation to all the native princes to maintain law and order in their own territories and also to assist, if occasion arises, the British Government to curb the uprising.

"He was extremely eager to protect Ajmer which, being in the heart of Rajputana, held a strategic position and whose occupation by the rebels might have affected the British interests adversely because there was well stored arsenal, a full treasury and enormous wealth at Ajmer. At that time there were two companies of native infantry at Ajmer and hence the regiment of Mhairs (Mers) was called from Beawar with a view to replace the sepoy before they could mature any plans of resistance. With a view to over-awe the native troops at Nasirabad a light field force from Deesa was requested to send all the available European troops to Agra via Gujrat and Rajputana. An effort was also made to requisition for the Kotah Contingent to be posted at Ajmer but it had already been despatched to Agra. All these arrangements were being made in advance by Lawrence because 'for some time past the

1. Rajputana District Gazetteer, Vol. I-A 1904 p. 16.

2. La Touche's Settlement Report p. 77.

seeds of rebellion had been wafted abroad in the bazars and cantonments by emissaries from Delhi in the shape of *fakirs*. Though the British Officers commanding the native regiments in Rajputana had ample faith in the fidelity of their men, there was every reason to fear an insurrection because 'the whole of Rajputana was in a ferment of unrest.' There was another cause for anxiety. Ajmer was held by two companies of the 15th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry and since they had recently come from Meerut and were composed of indisciplined *Poorbeas*, it was thought proper to replace them with *Mhairs* who, being hill men and of low caste, were reported of having no sympathy for the mutineers. The arrival of the *Mhairs* (*Mers*) at Ajmer saved it and with it the whole of Rajputana.

"It was on May 28 that the two regiments of infantry at Nasirabad rose up in arms. The initiative was taken by the 15th regiment whose sepoys seized the guns of the battery. The bungalows and public buildings were plundered and burned. Even the 1st Bombay Cavalry failed to follow the lead of their officers, it refused to charge and, though its sepoys refrained from rebellion and provided escort for the women and children of the Europeans on their way to Beawar, two of its officers were killed and three were wounded. Having raised a standard of revolt, they 'streamed off to Delhi.'

"Why did they fail to attack Ajmer?" Trevor has suggested a number of arguments. In the first place, they were so full of loot that they did not want more. In the second place, they thought that the capture of the magazine at Ajmer would be an 'arduous business.' In the third place, they were afraid of the arrival of reinforcements from Deesa since a requisition for the 83rd foot had already been sent and the European troops were on their march towards Rajputana. In the fourth place, they feared that the rich bankers of Ajmer would make a common cause with the British. In the fifth place, the Bombay Cavalry had with them their wives and children and as such they had no desire to risk their lives.

"Itudus C. Prichard, an officer of the 15th Native Infantry, has left behind a 'wonderfully vivid' account of the hasty march of the mutineers. According to him the rebels made good long marches despite the fact that the roads were heavy and the mutineers were 'encumbered with immense quantities of plunder.' Though they had their sick women and children and baggage with them, they moved fast even at the cost of their plunder, a portion of which they had to leave behind in the villages on their way. One other observation, made by Prichard, is

equally significant. The Raj troops, accompanying the British Officers, were not only afraid to attack the sepoys but they were sympathetic also because they believed that the British had 'tried to tamper with their religions.'

"The extra-ordinary haste with which the mutinous soldiery marched off to Delhi is one of the strangest phenomena of the Nasirabad mutiny. At a time when Carnell, the military officer-incharge of defence operations at Ajmer, was 'passing sleepless days and nights providing against danger from without and within and was so nervous that on the slightest suspicion he 'quietly disposed of a *poorbeah* by a rope and did not allow a large body of Jodhpur troops, sent to Ajmer by the loyal Maharaja of Jodhpur, to remain there because they indulged in disrespectful demonstrations and were, as such distrusted, the mutineers from Nasirabad, far from taking any advantage of the situation arising at Ajmer, ran in astonishing haste towards Delhi. As a matter of fact even the Raj troops, chasing theme were sympathetic towards them.'" ¹

From Nasirabad the fire spread to Neemuch.

In 1857, Captain B. P. Lloyd was appointed the first Deputy Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara, who was under the N.W.P. Government as well as under the A.G.G. Rajputana.

Lloyd was followed by Major Davidson in 1864 and the latter by Captain Répton in 1868. A severe famine visited the region which continued for 19 months and swept away about 25 per cent of the population.

An extradition Treaty was concluded with the Kishangarh State in 1868 A.D. by the British Government for the mutual surrender of persons charged with certain specified offences. This was modified in 1887 by an Agreement providing that in cases of extradition of offenders from British India to Kishangarh, the procedure for the time being in force in British India was to be followed.

On 20th October, 1870, Lord Mayo, Viceroy of India, visited Ajmer. The durbar that was held two days after his arrival, was attended by a number of princes.² He left the place on 25th October.

1. Rajasthan's Role in the Struggle of 1857 by Nathu Ram Khadgawat p. 16-19.

2. H. B. Sarda mentions that the rulers of Udaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Bundi, Karauli, Tonk, Kishangarh & Jhalawar came to attend the Darbar, Ajmer Historical and Descriptive p. 221.

The administration of Ajmer-Merwara was put under the Foreign and Political Department of the Government of India in 1871 A.D. and the authority of N.W.P. Government over this region ended. Henceforth the Agent to the Governor General for Rajputana also acted as the Ex-Officio Chief Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara. Under him were a Commissioner and two Assistant Commissioners (one each for Ajmer and Merwara). In 1875, Mr. La Touche made the first regular Twenty Years Settlement of the province. Systematic development of modern amenities began. Railway lines were laid down and lead was already taken towards setting up of educational institutions. Archaeological excavations were also made.

A treaty was concluded in 1879 between Kishangarh State and British Government. The Maharaja agreed to 'suppress the manufacture of salt' throughout Kishangarh territory; to prohibit the import or consumption within the State of any but British duty-paid salt and to abolish transit duties and dues of any kind on all exports and imports.

Ajmer welcomed another dignitary—Her Majesty the Queen Empress Mary in 1911 A.D. Much was done to boost the Government when Britain was occupied in the World War I. Publicity and propaganda in favour of the Government, mass recruitment in the army, and huge sums for the war loan were organised under a Committee set up for the purpose.

Ajmer could not remain aloof from the political fervour that had swept all over the country. In 1919, Vijaya Singh Pathik and Ram Narain Chaudhari founded the 'Rajasthan Sewa-Sangh' at Wardha and in the following year its headquarters were transferred to Ajmer. A weekly news paper 'Naveen Rajasthan' was also started. In 1920 A.D., a committee, headed by Mr. Ashworth, was appointed by the Government of India to report on the administrative and judicial arrangements in Ajmer-Merwara. In his report, he remarked that the only way to make the administration efficient in Ajmer-Merwara, and to let the province have the benefit of the reforms, was to merge it with the United Provinces.

The 'Rajasthan Sewa Sangh' did some service by bringing political awareness among the masses but with the arrest of Shri Pathik in 1924 in Mewar, the enthusiasm of the organisation cooled down. In the same year, Ajmer-Merwara was allowed to send a representative in the Central Legislative Assembly. When released from the jail in 1926, Shri Pathik met Mahatma Gandhi, but internal conflicts in the organisation itself.

increased day by day with the result that the organisation had to be wound up in 1928.

Government of India Act, 1935

With the passage of the Government of India Act in 1935 A.D., Ajmer-Merwara was put under the administrative control of the Home Department on April 1, 1937. As a result thereof, henceforth all the legislation of the province was to be passed by the Federal Legislature. It was also stipulated that the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner of Ajmer, would be borrowed from the United Provinces Civil Services. The designation of the Agent to the Governor General for Rajputana was changed to "the Resident in Rajputana and Chief Commissioner Ajmer-Merwara." One member of the Federal Assembly and another to the Federal Council of State were to be sent by Ajmer-Merwara and Panth Piploda jointly when the Federal Legislature was formed.

In 1938, a total area of 496 square miles was handed over to the Marwar (273 sq. miles) and Mewar (223 sq. miles) States. These areas were taken over by the British Government between 1823 A.D. and 1830 A.D. from Marwar and Mewar in order to maintain law and order. In 1943 A.D. Ajmer-Merwara was again made a Deputy Commissionership.

As elsewhere in the country, the struggle to achieve independence from the fetters of foreign rule, was in swing in Ajmer-Merwara too, at this time. The leading congressmen of the area unanimously approved at a meeting held on 1st August, 1942, the 'Quit India' resolution passed by the Congress Working Committee at Wardha. The police arrested 37 prominent workers of Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri etc. on 9th August. The government declared all the Congress Committees illegal and their offices were ransacked. "Even purely constructive and humanitarian organisations, viz., Shri Gandhi Ashram of Hatundi, Gram Udyog Sangh of Ajmer, Khadi Vidyalaya and library of Harmara, Khadi Bhandars of Ajmer and Beawar, etc., were considered dangerous institutions, shaking up the roots of Bureaucracy, and were consequently, raided and captured. Property worth about Rs. 15,000 was auctioned off."¹ Several students who organised strikes in their institutions and joined processions were arrested. Inhuman treatment was accorded to the detenus and the prisoners in the jails where medical and sanitary arrangements were

1. '42 Rebellion by Govind Sahai p. 391.

most inadequate. But the strugglers faced all these difficulties boldly and 'the deplorable move of the Government in July, 1943 to obtain forcibly and treacherously, the signatures or thumb-impressions of the prisoners; was thrown to the dust by one and all, inspite of serious threats and tortures.¹

Sarva Shri Ramesh Vyas, Lekhraj Arya, Shankarlal Varma, Mool Chand Asava and Balkrishna Kaul were victimised and convicted on petty charges.

Shri Govind Sahai remarks in his 42 *Rebellion* 'after 1943, the government slightly changed their tactics. They began releasing the detenus unconditionally but after the release, they imposed severe restrictions and obstructions on them. Some were directed to quit the province within 48 hours, and others were prohibited from using radios and motors, from participating in any movement and even from meeting one another. Even the ordinary course of life was rendered difficult and impossible under these severe restrictions, and all those who refused to submit were strictly penalised. Shri Mool Chand Asava and Shri Gokul Lal Asava had to undergo four month's rigorous imprisonment and pay a fine of Rs. 200/- each on the charge of defying the restrictions imposed on them to confine themselves strictly within the Ajmer municipal area. On the 29th February, 1944 Shri Jwala Prasad Sharma and Shri Raghuraj Singh threw dust in the eyes of the jail authorities and absconded and could not be traced subsequently.'

On the eve of Independence, 15th August, 1947, the Rajputana Agency was abolished. There were occasional communal riots at some places but they were successfully controlled. In the same year, the centrally administered district of Panth Piploda in the Central India was placed under the Chief Commissioner Ajmer-Merwara and Deputy Commissioner Ajmer-Merwara became the Collector of Panth Piploda. This arrangement ceased on 26th January, 1950 when this district was merged with the Union of Madhya Bharat. With the passage of Part C States Bill in 1951, the region was included in the part C State of Ajmer and a legislature was set up. It remained centrally administered area for some time even though, the representatives of Ajmer had expressed the view that "the special problems arising out of smallness of area, geographical position, scantiness of resources, attended with what may be called administrative difficulties of many a complex nature

1. '42 Rebellion by Govind Sahai p. 391.

may, at no distant future, necessitate the joining of each of these areas with contiguous unit.”¹

Soon after, the Rajasthan Govt. extended its claim over Ajmer. It argued that “geographically, ethnologically and linguistically Ajmer is and has all along been an integral part of Rajasthan. During the British rule, it was considered expedient for purely political considerations that this small but strategic area should be retained and administered by the Central Government so as to prevent any threat to British suzerainty over Rajasthan, should the different Rulers of this State, who were at one time powerful potentates, try to throw off their allegiance to the British Crown. Till the formation of Rajasthan, Ajmer was bordered by different States. The position has entirely changed since the Rajasthan State came into existence. Ajmer is now an island surrounded on all sides by the State of Rajasthan. There is little distinction between the customs, manners, traditions, language, culture and habits of the people of Ajmer and the surrounding areas of Rajasthan. In the old set-up when viability was not the main criterion, as will be clear from the fact that several tiny states existed as separate political entities, and since more than one state surrounded Ajmer, and further in view of the more progressive administration of the centrally administered areas as compared with some backward Indian States, there might have been some justification for the separate existence of Ajmer under the direct administration of the Central Government. None of these considerations, however, applies today. Since all the Units surrounding Ajmer have now become one State under a Unified administration, since Rajasthan as a Part B State has a more progressive and democratic administrative set up under the Constitution than the Part C States, and since the strategic considerations which rendered it expedient for the Central Government during the British period to have direct control over province of Ajmer-Merwara no longer exist, there is no justification in contemporary context for the continuance of the State of Ajmer as a separate administrative entity. Further, the expenditure which is being incurred in the creation and maintenance of a replica, complete in all respects of a democratic administrative machinery based on parliamentary form of Government, for a State of such small area, population and revenue, is out of all proportion not only to the resources of the State but to the advantages of democratic Governments. There is reason to believe that a vast majority of the population of Ajmer would be in

1. Reports of the Committees of the Constituent Assembly of India, Third Series, p. 120.

favour of an arrangement whereby while ensuring to them all advantages or responsible and parliamentary Government, their resources would not be crippled by the imposition of an elaborate and expensive machinery necessary for the purpose. The object of giving to Ajmer a democratic administration, can therefore, best be achieved by its integration into Rajasthan and by extension of the administration of Rajasthan to the area now constituting Ajmer. The following are some of the several reasons why Ajmer should not remain separate from Rajasthan :

(i) "The State is not separated from Rajasthan by any natural barriers. The borders are all artificial ones.

(ii) "From the point of view of rainfall, soil conditions, climate, vegetation, similar conditions are available in Ajmer as in the rest of Rajasthan.

(iii) "The custom of the people, their language, food, dress, ornaments and decorations and dwellings, fair and festivals, habits, superstitions, rituals, etc., are the same in both the States of Ajmer and Rajasthan.

"From the point of view of the maintenance of law and order also it would be expedient to have one administrative control over Rajasthan and Ajmer State, as the recent dacoity situations in the Aravallis has been partly due to this pocket, because the dacoits after operations in districts Pali, Bhilwara or Udaipur, which are on the borders of Ajmer, have been crossing into the territory of Ajmer State and vice versa. The outskirts of districts Pali, Udaipur and Bhilwara lying in Ajmer have been providing good shelter and hideouts to the dacoits on account of administrative difficulties experienced by the Rajasthan police in operating into Ajmer State.

"The irresistible conclusion from all these arguments would be to take a decision to let this small area of 2417 square miles with a population of nearly 7 lakhs souls be amalgamated with the State of Rajasthan. Continuance of the separate State of Ajmer also goes against the declared policy of the Government of India of not keeping non-viable political Units."¹

1. Views and Suggestions of Rajasthan Government to the States Reorganisation Commission 1954. Appendix II p. 1-2.

With the above arguments it was also urged that the Deoli area which formed a part of Ajmer should also be transferred to the Government of Rajasthan.

The Re-organisation Commission investigated the case for the merger and it was held that the Part C States had been increasingly subsidised by the Centre through the payment of revenue gap grants-in-aid. Financially Part C States progressed poorly. On the other hand, these States urged that the paralysing control which was exercised by the Government of India must be held responsible to account for this poor performance. But the Report says that the main reason for the relative slow progress of the plan in the Part C States is not the nature or the extent of the control exercised by the Central Government. It was also contended that "the administrative services in the Part C States have not been and are not likely to be properly manned, the main reason being that service in these States offer inadequate opportunities. One advantage of the merger of these States in larger units will be a general improvement of their administrative system.

"One other reason why a merger may be desirable is that the Part C States, being in most cases unplanned enclaves, continue to have close economic links with the surrounding areas and thus will facilitate the implementation of the bigger plans."¹ The other reason which the Commission puts forth for the merger of these States is their failure to achieve the desired results in the field of democratic experiment.

As regards the Ajmer State, the Report remarks: "Ajmer is a one-district Part C State surrounded on all sides by territories of Rajasthan. It has retained its separate existence so far because of historical reasons. The question of its merger in a longer unit has been agitated from time to time since 1921 when a Committee went into it. The fact that Ajmer was a convenient British outpost in Rajasthan and that it could not very well be included in the then United Provinces, from which it was far removed, accounted for the State's separate existence in British days.

"Ajmer is no longer geographically isolated. Nor does it any longer play the role of a sentinel. We, therefore, agree with the Rajasthan Government that the linguistic, cultural and geographical links of Ajmer with Rajasthan must be respected, and that, for several reasons, for example, the likelihood that the law and order situation may improve

1. Report of the States Reorganisation Commission 1955, p. 75.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

POPULATION

Total Population

The total population of the district in 1961, according to the final Census figures, was 9,76,547. The distribution among the various administrative units was as follows:—

Unit	Area ¹ (in sq. miles for the year 1956)	Population		
		Total	Males	Females
DISTRICT	3,323	9,76,547	5,10,446	4,66,101
Ajmer Sub-division	914	4,48,782	2,36,806	2,11,976
Beawar Sub-division	612	2,04,439	1,05,818	98,621
Kekri Sub-division	894	1,61,535	83,637	77,898
Kishangarh Sub-division	903	1,61,791	84,185	77,606
Rupanagar tahsil	204	32,526	16,809	15,717
Arain tahsil	215	30,947	16,138	14,809
Kishangarh tahsil	245	58,884	30,936	27,948
Sarwar tahsil	239	39,434	20,302	19,132

Growth of Population

The density of population for the district as a whole, is 293.87 persons per square mile or 113 persons per square kilometre. At the time of 1951 Census the density was 248 persons per square mile or 95 persons per square kilometre and in 1941 it was 207 persons per square mile or 79 persons per square kilometre. The density is greatest in Ajmer tahsil where it is 491 persons per square mile and least in Arain

1. Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan 1961, p. 33, published by Directorate of Economics and Statistics Rajasthan Jaipur. The same publication gives this as 3224 square miles on page 18, perhaps for the year 1961 but does not provide sub-divisional and tahsil figures separately. The Census of India 1961, paper No. 1 of 1962, p. 44 gives this figure as 3,283 square miles.

tahsil where there are only 143.94 persons per square mile. The mean density of population for Rajasthan as a whole, is 153 persons per square mile or 59 persons per square kilometre.¹

There has been steady growth of population in the district since 1921. In the earlier decade there was actually a decrease largely due to the terrible famine and draught. Thus population dropped from 4,49,232 in 1911 to 4,46,842 in 1921. Thereafter, it again showed an upward trend rising to 5,06,964 in 1931 to 5,83,693 in 1941 and to 6,93,372 in 1951. The Kishangarh sub-division, having a population of 1,32,579 in 1951, was transferred from district Jaipur to Ajmer in 1956. Thus the total population of the area now comprising the district was 8,25,951 in 1951. During the decade 1951-61, the increase in population has been 18.23 per cent.

Two main factors encouraging high rate of growth are the high percentage of people in marital state and early marriages. This percentage has not varied much during the last fifty years. In 1951, the number of unmarried females (per 1,000) was:—

Age Group	Unmarried per 1,000 females
0 to 4	1,000
5-14	726
15-24	85
25-34	9
35-44	3
45-54	2
55-64	3
65-74	2
75 and Over	0

The influence of marital condition on birth rate becomes evident when we turn to the proportion of married women in the child-bearing ages. In Ajmer 88 per cent of those in ages 15-45 were recorded as married in 1951.

1. Statistical Abstract 1961, p. 18, published by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Most of the marriages are still arranged by parents with the help of professional go-betweens. Economic stability of the bridegroom has never been an important consideration in contracting a marriage. Of course, the parents are anxious to see that their son-in-law is well employed but unemployment is not a positive disqualification, since the resources of the joint family are available for the support of the newly married couple. Religion does not encourage celibacy for a Hindu, if he is a strict one, must have at least one son. It is really the fear of social rather than religious ostracism that is behind this urge to get married. The society still frowns upon bachelors and spinsters.

Climate also acts as a favourable factor in the growth of population. In tropical countries girls attain puberty between the ages of twelve and fifteen and, though often psychologically immature, they are physically ready to bear children; and cases are not wanting where reproduction has begun at the age of thirteen or fourteen. The girls marry as soon as they reach puberty, begin bearing children early, and reduce the period of lactation, thereby shortening the intervals between child births.

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For many, sex intimacy is the only relaxation and recreation in an otherwise dull, drab and unexciting life of relentless struggle to make both ends meet. Acute poverty also makes one resigned and fatalistic; thought for the morrow and contemplation of the grim prospects of a large family, are brushed aside. The thought that one cannot be worse off than one already is, banishes all ideas of foresight and control. Resignation to a lifetime of poverty follows. The rigid social structure prevents upward movement in a society and the desire for personal advancement can never become so compelling as to induce people to limit their families.

Emigration and Immigration

The 1961 Census figures showing the number of persons born outside the district but residing therein, were not available at the time of writing but broad conclusions regarding the emigration and immigration may be drawn from the 1951 Census figures. In that year, of a total population of 6,93,372, 71.02 per cent or 4,92,498 persons (2,57,948 males and 2,34,550 females) were born in the district itself. A total of 93,494 persons (46,607 males and 46,887 females) were born in other districts of Rajasthan. The number of persons born outside Rajasthan but within India, was 36,427 (19,166 males and 17,261 females). Persons born outside India but within Asia numbered 70,743 (36,405 males

34,338 females). Of these, 70,296 (36,167 males, and 34,129 females) were born in Pakistan.¹ Persons from other countries of the world, numbered 210 (110 males and 100 females).

While considering these figures, it has to be remembered that the census statistics portray conditions existing at a fixed moment once in 10 years, and thus take no account of movements of population under stress of adverse circumstances or for any other reason. The figure of immigrants, (29 per cent in 1951) shows that there are fairly good opportunities in the district and the economy is expanding. Emigration is not a noticeable feature.

Urban and Rural Areas

In the Census of 1951, seven towns were listed in the district viz., (i) Ajmer with a population of 1,96,633, (ii) Beawar with a population of 51,054, (iii) Nasirabad with a population of 24,504, (iv) Kekri with a population of 9,816, (v) Pushkar with a population of 5,934, (vi) Bijainagar with a population of 5,802, and (vii) Deoli with a population of 4,021, making a total urban population of 2,97,764. With the change in the system of classification of towns and the inclusion of Kishangarh and Sarwar into the list, the number of towns in the district has increased to eight. Deoli has, on the other hand, been transferred to Tonk district. In 1961 the population of the towns was as under:—

Town	Population			Variation* over 1951
	Total	Male	Female	
Ajmer	2,31,240	1,22,561	1,08,679 (+)	34,607
Beawar	53,931	28,565	25,366 (+)	2,877
Kishangarh	25,244	13,421	11,823 (-)	452
Nasirabad	24,148	13,576	10,572 (-)	356
Kekri	12,394	6,482	5,912 (+)	2,578
Pushkar	6,703	3,592	3,111 (+)	769
Sarwar	6,182	3,231	2,951 (+)	1,372
Bijainagar	5,765	3,160	2,605 (-)	37

1. Census of India 1951, Vol. X Rajasthan & Ajmer Part II A. p. 322 by Pt. Y. L. Dashora, B. A., LL. B., Superintendent of Census Operations, Rajasthan and Ajmer.

* (+) and (-) indicates increase and decrease respectively.

Thus the total urban population in 1961 was 3,65,607. If we exclude the population of Kishangarh and Sarwar from the 1961 figures and the population of Deoli from the 1951 figures, the total urban population of 3,34,181 in 1961 represents an increase of 14 per cent over the figures of 1951. The increase in population is due to the influx, partly from the villages within the district but mostly from outside the district into the Ajmer and Beawar cities, attracted by the workshop of the former and by growing trade and factories and mills of the latter.

At the time of Census of 1951 the rural population totalled 3,95,608 or 57.1 per cent of the total population of the district. By 1961 the figure had risen to 6,10,940 or 59.9 per cent of the total population. The distribution of the rural population tahsil-wise is as follows:—

Tahsil	Males	Females	Total
1. Ajmer	97,077	89,614	1,86,691
2. Beawar	74,093	70,650	1,44,743
3. Kekri	77,155	71,986	1,49,141
4. Rupanagar	16,809	15,717	32,526
5. Arain	16,138	14,809	30,947
6. Kishangarh	17,515	16,125	33,640
7. Sarwar	17,071	16,181	33,252
	3,15,858	2,95,082	6,10,940

The open plains of Ajmer encourage the growth of large and compact central villages. In Merwara, the small patches of culturable land are scattered among the valleys and are separated from each other by rocky and difficult hill country. Each man likes to live where he can keep a watch upon his crops. So every valley has its little hamlet. The old fortified and inaccessible central villages, products of an age of war and plunder, have long fallen into ruins. The holdings all over the district are generally very small, specially so in the Beawar tahsil, owing to high pressure of population on land. Jats and Gujars are the principal cultivators and occupy 56 per cent of the area among themselves. Merats occupy 9.1 per cent while Muslims and Malis occupy 4.3 and 3.4 per cent respectively. Rawats and Gujars are good husbandmen.

Merats and Muslims are indifferent agriculturists but Malis are hard working. Their womenfolk also work in the fields. They are market gardeners sometimes reaping as many as four crops during one year. Gujars carry on cattle breeding as their subsidiary occupation. Field labour is supplied by *Bhambis* and *Raigars* who hold small area as cultivators.

Sex Ratio

In the first three decades of the present century, the number of females per 1,000 males in the districts, was below 900 being 898, 885 and 836 in 1901, 1911 and 1921 respectively. The situation somewhat improved in the next decade. In 1931, the ratio was 903. It dropped to 902 in 1941, but again rose to 925 in 1951. Moreover, the ratio again fell to 913 in 1961. This phenomenon is common to all districts of Rajasthan, the overall average being 908.

Age

In the 1951 Census, it was found that infants below one year of age formed 4.8 per cent of the total population, children aged one to four years accounted for 15.2 per cent, those aged five to 14 for 19.4 per cent, persons aged 15 to 34 for 33.7 per cent, those aged 35-54 for 18.9 per cent and persons aged 55 and over accounted for eight per cent. The preponderance of the age group 15-34 and the abrupt fall in the next group suggests that expectancy of life recedes after 34. The survival rate after 34 years of age is of the order of 55 per cent.

The age return is not very reliable, for, very few people in the villages know their exact age. However, the age returns are not altogether useless as in any large population errors due to over-statement and under-statement tend to cancel out.

LANGUAGE

According to the 1951 Census, the principal language spoken in the district is Rajasthani. According to Dr. Grierson's classification, it belongs to the Indo-Euuropean family, Indo-Aryan Branch, Central Group. It was spoken by 5,21,526 persons or 75.3 per cent of the total population at the time of 1951 Census. Western Hindi which includes Brij Bhasha, Hindi, Urdu and Alwari, had 1,06,961 persons as its total speakers. Further break-up of this group was as follows: Hindi 92,214; Brij Bhasha 8,883; Urdu 5,197; and Alwari 667. The other Indian languages common in the district are: Sindhi 44,137; Punjabi 16,557; Gujarati 1,566; Marathi 651; Bengali 572; Kanjari or Sansi (Gipsy) 461;

Madrasī 427; Nepālī 151; Telgu 63; Eastern Hindi 38; Kashmirī 19; Tamil 10; Beharī 6; and Kanarēsē 5. Speakers of European languages include English 116, French 43; and various African languages were spoken by 26 persons as their mother tongue.

The principal local dialect of Rajasthani spoken by the people is Ajmerī, which in 1951 was the mother tongue of 4,17,097 persons (2,04,849 males and 2,12,248 females) or 80 per cent of the Rajasthani speaking population. The other dialects of the district with their number of speakers were: Marwarī—60,866; Jaipurī or Dhundharī—22,829; Mewarī—9,878; Merwarī—2,658; Rebarī—2,218; Bagrī or Shekhawātī—2,208; Kishangarhī—876; Malwī, Rangirī or Ahirī—830; Harautī—668; Garanī—378; Garhwālī—263; Mewatī—193; Mewarī-Khairarī—136; Loharī—67; Sarwarī—52; Bikanerī—52; Banjarī or Labanī—16; Nagar-chal—12; Kankarī—7; and others 222. (1951 Census)

Bilingualism is common among the people of the district. Out of the total of 5,21,526 persons speaking different dialects of Rajasthani, 32,083 were returned as speaking more than one language—Western Hindi 17,795; Sindhi 17,499; Punjabi 7,271; Gujarati 789; Marathi 292; Madrasī 155; Bengali 122; Kanjari or Sansi (Gipsy) 71; Malayalam 8; Eastern Hindi 3; Kashmirī and Beharī two each; Tamil and Eastern Paharī one each.

Hindi is widely understood both among the educated and the uneducated. In government offices and courts, Hindi and English are used. In schools, Hindi is the medium of instruction.

RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL GROUPS.

Religious Groups

The bulk of the population (86.71 per cent) consists of Hindus, their total number at the time of 1951 Census being 5,99,524 (3,11,862 males and 2,87,662 females). In the same year, Muslims numbered 48,886 (25,976 males and 22,910 females) and formed 7.0 per cent of the population. Jains numbered 32,604 (16,432 males and 15,572 females) and formed 4.6 per cent of the population. Christians, Buddhists and Sikhs numbered 4,413, 4,316 and 3,664 giving a percentage of 0.6, 0.6 and 0.5 respectively. The number of Zoroastrians in the district was 262. **Hindus**—The principal sects of Hindus in the district are (i) Vāishnavā, (ii) Shīvā and (iii) Shaktā. They are worshippers of Vishnu, Shiva

and Shakti—the female associates or the active powers of the members of Hindu Trinity. *Ballabh Sampradaya* a literary-religious sect of Vaishnavas found favour with the rulers of Kishangarh, where its teachings of 'Prem Marg' (attainment of god—through love—the followers of this sect love Lord Krishna in his amorous aspects) were conducive in giving rise to distinct schools of painting and poetry. A temple of Ranchor Das still exists. The idol is attended by the hereditary priests who belong to Pushkarna sect and the ritual of daily ablutions, dressing up (*Shrinagar*), feeding (*Bhog*) and *Arati* are quite elaborate. Most of the Rajputs are worshippers of Shakti in one form or the other. Pushkar seems to have played a great role in the development of the religious concepts of Hindus, Buddhists as well as Jains. The discovery of stone age implements in this area shows that it was inhabited even in the earliest times. It is probable that the sanctity of Pushkar lake precedes emergence of what is known as Hindu religion. Epigraphic evidence takes us back to 54 century B.C. and numerous references are found in Hindu, Buddhist and Jain texts to prove that Pushkar continued to be regarded as a religious centre by all. Even the foreigners like Shakas venerated it.

Most of the religious practices and beliefs of Hindus of Ajmer, are similar to those of orthodox Hindus in other parts of India. However, the Mers of Merwara present a refreshing contrast. They do not trouble themselves much with the divinities of Brahminism and with them the taboos of Hinduism lose much of their vigour. Their religion is of rather undefined nature and it is doubtful whether they go much beyond the observance of certain rites at marriages and funerals. Though they worship incarnations of Shiva, under the names of Bhairanji and stones daubed with red paint and consecrated to *Sitla Mataji* (goddess of small pox), it does not prevent them from worshipping *Allahji*. Deified tribal heroes like Deoji and Ramdeoji also find worshippers. The hills of Magatji and Goramji, the highest in Merwara, are also venerated. This is probably a relic of pristine fetish worship though now the hills have modern hero-legends attached to them.

Orthodox Hindus and Muslims have tended to divide the Mers. The Kathat Merats, who have always eaten the flesh of cow and intermarried with Muhammadans, are tending to assimilate more and more with the orthodox followers of Islam. On the other hand, the Hindu Merats or Rawats of Todgarh as they are commonly called, are beginning to adhere more closely to the social and religious rules of Brahminism prevailing among surrounding Rajputs. In 1875, they had agreed to abstain from the flesh of kine and buffaloes and to excommunicate

all transgressors, and recently, they have gone further and agreed not to cat or intermarry with *Kathat Merats* or *Chitas*. The origin of the recent movement, which began among the men serving in the Merwara Battalion and other regiments, has been social rather than religious.

ARYA SAMAJ—Swami Dayanand, the founder of Arya Samaj was associated with this district and breathed his last¹ at Ajmer in 1883. His memorial is the D.A.V. College at Ajmer. Followers of the Arya Samaj, were formerly of only one Samaj but it split into two due to differences on academic questions. The Arya Samajis oppose idol worship and believe in the religion of Vedas.

SIKHS—They numbered 3,964 in 1951. Most of them had migrated from the West Pakistan. They have Gurdwaras in the district at Ajmer, Beawar, Kishangarh and Nasirabad. The Sikhs regard *Grantha Sahib* as their Guru. They always keep four article with them—*Kara* (iron bangle), *Kacchha* (underwear), *Kangha* (comb) and *Kataar* (dagger) and do not shave their head and beards.

JAINS—Jainism is another important religion which continues to survive in this country. Its followers in the district numbered 32,004 in 1951. Jainism retains most Hindu doctrines but it carries to an extreme the doctrine of radical immanence. This doctrine, the concrete expression of which is *Ahimsa* or non-injury (though non-violence is synonymous for *Ahimsa* in Gandhian phraseology), would result in extreme asceticism, were it not for the sharp distinction between the laity and the monks. The Jain laity has always been remarkably successful in worldly affairs and they were one of the first religious groups to take advantage of western education, prospering exceedingly in business under the British rule. They, however, seem to be numerically stationary not keeping pace with the increase of the total population of the District.

ISLAM—In the bardic literature and the Sanskrit plays of Chauhan period, there are references to the Hammir and Mlechhas etc. who invaded these areas. As is known, Sind had fallen under the control of Arabs in 712 A.D. It may be that the governors of Sind sent expeditions to these parts with varying results. Ajmer was annexed to the Turkish conquests in India, when *Qutbuddin Aibak* ousted the last Chauhan king *Hariraj*.

It was about this time that Hazrat Muin-ud-din Chishti came to Ajmer from Central Asia. His *dargah* was to make Ajmer a place of pilgrimage for Muslims all over India. The Merats are said to have been converted to Islam about this period, though many centuries were to elapse before they brought their lives in strict conformity with the teachings of Islam.

Except during the reigns of Akbar, Jahangir and Shahjahan, the hold of Muslim powers on Ajmer was precarious. Some of the present day Muslims are descendants of the garrisons kept by the governors at the fort. Others belong to the families associated with the Dargah Sharif.

In Rajasthan, the Muslim rulers exercised control only through Hindu princes and nobles. Furthermore, although there were mass conversions, the country was too vast, the invaders too few and the volume of immigration too small to change the social complex. These areas, therefore, remained predominantly Hindu in which Muslims formed a dominant but minor part of the population. The number of Muslims in the district, according to the 1951 Census, was 48,886. Most of them belong to Sunni sect.

CHRISTIANS—Ajmer attracted the attention of various Christian Missionary bodies; and Church of England, the Scotch United Free Church Mission, the American Methodists and the Roman Catholics made it a centre of their activities quite early. They rendered valuable services to the people of Ajmer through medical and educational institutions run by them. Their churches exist at Ajmer, Nasirabad and Beawar. According to the Census of 1951, the number of Christians in the district was 4,413. It is interesting to note that they have a separate colony at Ajmer, known as Christianganj.

Social Groups

The old, time-honoured social classification, based largely on traditional occupations and in some cases, on aspects of religion, is still fairly rigid, especially in the rural areas because of the lack of educational facilities, means of communication and industrialization—all of which help to break down old social barriers. Thus there are several distinct social groups in the district, the lines of cleavage between which are more clearly marked than in areas where the impact of modern civilization has been felt to a greater degree.

A new factor of recent origin in regard to social classification has been the division of the population into backward and non-backward classes for the purposes of rendering special assistance to the former group. Thus the Government provisionally declared, for the guidance of the 1951 Census workers, 19 castes or classes as being non-backward, namely; the Bohra, Brahman, Chakar, Charan, Dangi, Daroga, Darji, Dhakad, Kayasth, Khati, Mahajan, Mali, Mughal, Pathan, Purohit, Rajput, Syed, Shaikh and Sutar Classes. It does not automatically follow that all the remaining castes or classes are backward. What this declaration meant was that the classes so declared, are without doubt, non-backward. The remaining castes or classes consist of backward classes as well as marginal cases. Those who returned any other name which was a synonym or a sectional name of any one of the above castes or classes, were not treated by the enumerators as belonging to the non-backward classes, e.g., Joshi, Acharya, Purohit, etc.

44 castes in Rajasthan have been declared as scheduled under Article 341 of the Constitution. In 1951, they numbered 80,974 (41,671 males and 39,303 females) and in 1961, the number rose to 1,75,029 (90,235 males and 84,794 females). The number of the persons in the district belonging to scheduled tribes was 15,507 (8,036 males and 7,471 females) in 1961. These figures, also, are defective in that they do not contain the figures of those persons who returned synonymous or sectional names of any of the castes mentioned above, e.g., Harijan, Jatav and Yadav instead of Chamar, etc.

Other caste or clan names found in the Census slips in response to the question regarding social groups, were more than 150 in number. Some of them are really synonyms or sectional names of one or more of the castes mentioned in the list referred to above but they were grouped with backward classes for census purposes.

BRAHMANS—Of the various castes, Brahmans come first on the list of social precedence. The *Panch Dravid* Brahmans have the highest rank socially but are few in number. *Panch Gaudas* come next. They include, among others, the Gaudas, Kanaujias and Sarswats. The Gaudas again, include six sections locally known as the *Chhanayatis*. These are Gaudas, Dayimas, Gujar Gaudas, Parikhs, Sukhwals and Khandelwals. Dayimas do not follow the marriage rules of the *shastras* but rather those of the Mahajans and other castes. Some Brahmans of Merwara eat meat and have no dealings with other Brahmans. They previously held revenue free land in nearly every village.

VAISHYAS—The Vaishyas or Mahajans are the most numerous class of the district. Their principal sub-divisions are the Oswals, who trace their birth-place to Osa Nagri in Marwar, and the Agarwals who derive their name from Agrasen, who lived at Agroda in Hariana. Other Vaishya castes are the Maheshwaris and Bijaybargis. Most of the Vaishyas are engaged in trade. They are generally well off.

KAYASTHAS—Have been classified as a caste allied to Kshatriyas. Rajputs and Khattris. Some of them wear janeyu (the sacred thread). Their chief sub-divisions are Mathur, Bhatnagar, Shrivastava, and Saksena. Most of them are employed in offices and educational establishments.

RAJPUTS—Among the land-owning castes, Rajputs are at the top of the social ladder. "It is a curious fact illustrative of the great vicissitudes of early times, that though Ajmer was held for over a thousand years by Chauhans, there are no Chauhans to bet with in the province."¹ They must be looked for in Haraoti, in Alwar, and in the desert of Nagar Parkhar where they have been pushed by the Rathors, who had occupied their place as the ruling tribe and who in numbers, wealth and power greatly preponderate over the other Rajput clans in the district. These are three in number—Gor, Seśodia, and Kachhwaha.

In the time of Prithvi Raj Chauhan (circa 1190 A.D.), Raja Bachh Raj and Raja Bawan, Gor Rajputs from Bengal came to Ajmer on the customary pilgrimage to Dwarka. Prithvi Raj employed them in his service and later established matrimonial alliances with them. Raja Bawan settled at Kuchawan in Marwar and Raja Bachh Raj remained in Ajmer. In course of time, Gor Rajputs acquired Junia, Sarwar, Deolia and the adjacent territory. Humayan¹ granted a mansab of 7,000 to the head of this clan. Later, they defeated the Ponwars and took Srinagar from them. This was the climax of the prosperity of the Gor Rajputs for, soon afterwards, they were ejected from Rajgarh and all their territory by Kishan Singh Rathore. After 25 years of dispossession Gopal Singh recovered Rajgarh, and the Gors were in possession when the country fell into the hands of the Marathas. The latter resumed Rajgarh and the 12 villages attached to it in 1817, as the Raja was unable to pay a contribution of Rs. 10,000 as *fauj kharch*.

On the establishment of British rule these villages were returned on the condition of payment of *nazarana*, but as the *nazarana* was not, or could not be paid, the whole area was resumed with the exception of one small village, Kothaj, and remained *khalsa* until 1874. In March

1. Gazetteer of Ajmer-Merwara by J. D. Latouche (1875) p. 28.

2. *ibid*.

of that year, the town of Rajgarh was presented by the British Government in jagir to Raja Devi Singh, the representative of this ancient but fallen house. The Gor Rajputs held land in 14 villages. The descendants were the *istimrardars* of Mohanpur and the *bhumias* of Sanod, Nandla, Nearan, Lavera, Dodiana, and Jharwasa. The descendants of Raja Bawan were jagirdars of Arjunpura jagir, and *bhumias* of Arjunpura Khalsa, and held *bhum* in Tabiji.

The Rathors of Ajmer have the same characteristics as their brethren in Marwar. Although their physique is not remarkable, they were warlike and indolent and great consumers of opium. Each man carries at least a dagger and except under extreme pressure, none will touch a plough.

Rajputs differ from other high-caste Hindus, in that they are exogamous so far as their different clans are concerned. A Rathor will not marry a Rathor, but will take his wife from the Sesodias or Kachhwahas.

JATS—The Jats were very widely established all over north-western Rajputana and without doubt, the tract of Kishangarh was one of their most ancient habitations. They are first rate agriculturists and possess a fine physique. They have monopolized agriculture principally due to their greater energy in digging wells and improving the land. They are divided into three main families, Puniyo, Sishmo and Harchitral, but their gotes are more than a hundred. Socially, they stand at the head of the widow-remarrying castes.

Both Col. Tod and General Cunningham consider the Jats to be of Indo-Scythian stock. Col. Tod identifies the Jats with the *Getæ*¹ of ancient history and is of the opinion that they migrated from Central Asia to India about the time of Cyrus. The date of their settlement in Rajasthan is uncertain but they had risen to power in 5th century of the Christian era. The Jats themselves claim to have sprung from the matted hair (*jata*) of Siva. They possess fine physique, a sturdy independence of character. We have it from a local proverb that a persian wheel bucket and spout, and a Jat woman, are never superfluous, the one fertilises the fields the other populates the village. Jats are Vaishnavas, and the Brahmans officiate at their ceremonies.

The customs of this caste are somewhat peculiar. Jats, Minas and Gujars can all smoke together, eat together out of the same *degchi*, but

1. Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan by Lt. Col. James Tod, Vol. I p. 74-75.

not out of the same *thali*. They can also take women as pseudo concubines, under a curious custom called *Dareja*. The widows can also be sold under the same custom. The latter gives the woman a position a little better than a concubine and legitimizes any children which she may bear her master.

GUJARS—They are careless cultivators and devote their energies to grazing cattle. They are divided into many *gotras*, prominent being: Kawara, Peswal, Diya, Char, Ganthila, Saradhana, Oonjal and Naliya.

MERS—The people living in the area erstwhile known as Merwara were commonly designated as Mers. They have many peculiar characteristics and customs as they are both Hindus and Mohammedans, the latter being distinguished as Merats. They are lax in their religious observances and are perfectly regardless of all the forms enjoined as to ablution, the preparation of food and other set ceremonies. As they are unique to the district, a detailed account has been appended at the end of the chapter.

Other Castes

Of the other castes in the district, there are Malis who are good cultivators; Kir devote their attention to the cultivation of melons; the Rabaris breed camels and cultivate rice. The menial castes are Bhangis, Balais and Raigars. Balais are the most numerous and consider themselves superior to the Raigars, who correspond with the Chamars of Uttar Pradesh. Minas, Sansis and Bhils are the thievish classes but none of them are numerous in the district. The names of the other castes in the district are: Kumhars (potters), Khatis (carpenters), Chakars and Darogas (domestic servants), Nais (barbers), Chamars (tanners), Darzis (tailors), Dhobis (washermen), Kahars (bearers), Lohars (blacksmiths), Sunars (gold smiths), Telis (oilmen), Bhats (bards), Chippas (chintz printers), Kharols (salt workers), Dholis (drummers), Gadarias (shepherds), Lakheras (bangle makers), Rangrez (dyers), Tambolis (betel sellers), Beldars (diggers), Bharbujas (grain parchers), Ghosis (milk and butter sellers), Halwais (confectioners), Kalals (liquor sellers), Silavats (masons), Sikligars (steel sharpeners), and Thatteras (braziers). Mohammadans are classed into Sheikhs, Syeds, Mughals and Pathans. Deswali Mohammadans assert that they are Rajputs, who were converted in the time of Shab-ud-din. The Banjaras are also said to have been converted at the same time as Deswalis.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

JOINT FAMILY SYSTEM—A general backwardness and disinclination to travel far in search of employment, have had the effect of keeping the joint family in the traditional occupation. Except possibly in the towns, there is not much evidence of the breaking up of the joint family system. This is revealed in the Census figures (1951) wherein it was shown that, among 100 households, heads of families and their wives numbered 191, sons 111, daughters 87 and other relatives 99.

The joint family, as a rule, consists of parents, married sons and their wives, unmarried sons and unmarried daughters. In the present state of society in the area, dissensions within the family rarely come to the surface and though it may sometimes be necessary for married sons to live apart, resources are invariably pooled. Rarely does a division of property occur in the lifetime of the father. Traditionally, the property of a deceased house-holder is equally distributed among all the sons. The jagirdars followed the rule of primogeniture.

The people of Kathat and Gorat tribes whether calling themselves Muhammadans or Hindus, have identical inheritance customs; a sonless widow retains possession of her husband's property till she marries again or till her death. She can mortgage in order to pay her husband's debts, to discharge arrears of government revenue or to obtain funds for the expenses of marrying her daughters. Daughters do not inherit when there are sons alive. All sons inherit equally but in the event of there being sons from two or more wives, the property is divided per capita of the wives and not per capita of the sons. This custom called *Chaunda-Bat*, as opposed to *Paggriwand* or *Bhai-Bat*, is universal among all the Merwara clans. There is no distinction between ancestral and acquired property. A relation of any age may be adopted; the nearest relation has the first claim and his children born before his adoption, succeed in the adopted family. Sons by slave girls who are pretty numerous under the name of *dharmputra*, get land to cultivate but obtain no share in the inheritance and cannot transfer the land.

POSITION OF WOMEN—The position of women has remained practically unchanged. Among the upper classes, they still tend to live a life of seclusion. The provision of educational facilities for girls is bringing about a welcome change in the younger generation but the results will not be visible for some time. At present, few women belonging to the upper and middle classes are economically independent. Among the working classes, women have all along worked alongside their men and

in a very real sense, enjoy more freedom than their upper class sisters. They are certainly more economically active. However, they too occupy a subordinate position in the social life. The *parda* system, which was at one time very strong among the Rajputs, the higher class Muslims and certain Brahman sects, is disappearing. But even today Rajput and orthodox Muslim women rarely move out of their homes and if they do so, they keep their bodies fully covered. Among all other communities, women move out freely but generally veil their faces in the presence of elders and strangers. Working women, however, do not cover their faces.

Adoption

A Hindu who has no male issue usually adopts a son from amongst his next of kin. This is called *godlena* (god meaning *lap lena* to receive in). There is no written code as to the law of adoption among the people of the district. However, an effort was made in 1871 by Mr. Brandreth to draw a treatise on Adoption.¹ People say that in the case of adoption they are guided by *Dharma Shastras* and the ancient custom.

In making adoptions, it is of primary importance that the adopted party must also be of the same tribe, *jat* or caste as his adoptive father, and he must not be the son of one whom the adopter could not have married, such as sister's son or daughter's son. So long as a brother's son is alive, no distant relative is adopted. The only exception to this rule would be in the cases of mental or physical infirmity. As a general custom, only males have the right of adoption, though a woman may also adopt having obtained the consent of her husband. An adoption by the widow is valid so long as she has the consent of her husband's relatives. If a man dies leaving more than one widow, the eldest has the preference and power of adoption. After adoption the adopted loses all claims to inheritance of the family of his natural father. His liabilities also cease with the adoption. The adopted son enjoys all legal, social and religious rights and privileges and is subject to all the liabilities of a real son of the adoptive father. If a legitimate son is born subsequent to an adoption, the custom is that the legitimate son takes precedence, the adopted son taking a younger son's position.

It is customary to present ear-rings, clothings and other gifts to the adopted on the occasion when all the relatives of both the parties are present. The course which was generally pursued among the Jagirdars and other chiefs, may be described at length as follows.

1. Law of Adoption in Rajputana by Brandreth (1871).

The chief and his wife having agreed that there was no chance of their having a son, fixed upon one to adopt and sent for his horoscope which was shown to the *Jyotshi*, who compared it with that of the adopter. If the lunar asterisms under which each was born, were found propitious for the relation that was proposed to take place between them, the relations of the family and others were consulted and if all seemed favourable, the parents of the boy were asked if they agreed to the measure and the boy was generally transferred to the family to which he was hereafter to be permanently attached and resided with them five or six months before the adoption ceremony took place so that they could have an opportunity of judging his disposition. The *Jyotshi* is again consulted as to the propitious time for the ceremony to be performed. Notice of the ceremony was given by the *chobdar*, who enjoined on all to be present. Early in the morning the *Jyotshi*, *Purohits* and other Brahmins met together at the adopter's house where they made preparations for the ceremonies of the day. The Chief and his future son then made their appearance when offerings were made to Ganesha and Saraswati, after which the *Nandee Sharadh* was performed. Then offerings to the planets, Brahman etc., were made. Other ceremonies followed, the same as those which took place at the *Jatkrum*, purification after birth, adoption being considered in the light of a new birth. The adopter then anointed the underlip of his future son with a mixture of ghee and honey. *Tilak* was then marked by the Brahmins on the forehead of both. The *Purohit* placed the boy in the lap of his adopting father. The *Jyotshi* would come forward and again marked the *tilak* on the boy's forehead, sprinkled consecrated water on the hands of both and performed the *artee*. Presents were then given and received.

Marriage and Morals

POLYGAMY—Polygamy was permissible among the Muslims as well as Hindus. According to custom and usage, the Rajputs, Jats, Rawats and Bhils frequently had more than one wife living at a time. Polygamy, however, is fast dying out. The effect of various social movements has created general averseness towards polygamy and respectable people hardly if ever, married a second time during the life time of the first wife. Among the Muslims, however, polygamy as allowed under their personal laws, persists. The various marriage legislations, latest in the series being the Hindu Marriage Act 1955, have abolished polygamy from among Hindus. According to this latest Act, the condition that neither party must have a spouse living at the time of marriage, is absolute with the result that monogamy among Hindus is now the rule. Again, the same Act also prescribes 18 as the age for the bride-

groom and 15 as that for the bride. The breach of the conditions relating to age is punishable as an offence. The Child Marriage Restraint Act (Act No. XIX of 1929) had prescribed minimum marriageable age of 18 and 15 for boys and girls respectively. The author of this Act, which was popularly known as Sarda Act, was Shri Harbilas Sarda, who belonged to Ajmer. The government employees are debarred from marrying again while the husband or the wife is alive. Any breach of this renders the government servant liable to disciplinary action and severe punishment.

Polyandry is unknown. In former times, it was common practice for the bigger jagirdars to contract hypergamous marriages with the daughters of other Rajputs of lower social status. In such case, however, they rarely if ever, visited their fathers-in-law. Among Jats, a man could not marry his wife's sister if his wife was alive. The Bhils, on the other hand, were permitted to and frequently did marry wife's sisters.

RESTRICTIONS ON MARRIAGE—Restrictions on marriage vary with the different social groups and some have already been described. It would serve no useful purpose to go into further details as the restrictions are the same within the Hindu sects elsewhere. It may, however, be observed that there has been no loosening of the hold of old customs and ideas and intercaste marriages are exceptions even among the settled urban population.

MARITAL AGE—Among the Brahmans, girls are rarely married before the age of 13 and boys before 18. Among the Rajputs, child marriages were formerly the rule. Among the Jats, girls are rarely married before the age of 13 and not infrequently at a much later age. However, a local proverb about the age of marriage *Tiriya Terah, Pourash Atharah* i.e., girls of 13 and boy of 18, seems to be the general rule. Among the Mahajans and in most of the lower social groups, child marriage is still fairly common though the couple live apart till the girl attains puberty when she is brought to her husband's house at a ceremony known as *gouna*. In such cases, the marriage ceremony is more in the nature of a betrothal but it is binding all the same.

The census reveals that 484 out of every 1,000 males in the district were married, 448 were unmarried and 68 were widowed or divorced. The corresponding figures for women were 527, 352 and 121 respectively.

DOWRY SYSTEM—As elsewhere, the giving of dowry has been general practice in the area and it is yet too early to estimate the effect

of the recent legislation banning it. In case of some lower castes like Mali, Raigar, Rawats and Kumawats, bride price is the case. In these castes, daughter is considered a valuable commodity and by custom, at the time of her marriage, dowry is demanded instead of given.

MARRIAGE CUSTOMS—The seasons of marriage among the Hindus are determined by astrological considerations. As a rule, marriages are avoided during the rainy season, as it is believed that the gods are asleep in those months and therefore, not propitious for the purpose. Among Rajputs the festivals of *Janam-Ashtami*, *Basant-Panchmi*, *Radha-Ashtami* and *Akha Tij* are deemed propitious for marriage. *Bhadaun* and *Magha* are favourite months for marriage.

The marriage customs of Brahmans and Rajputs are similar everywhere and need not be described here. Gujars are an endogamous people. Marriage takes place in the early age, even of a few days' child. In arranging marriages efforts are made to select mates from the same village. In one respect these people have a very peculiar custom, and that is, of marrying away all the children together on the same day. This custom, they say, has been adopted in view of economy. On receipt of information about a suitable girl for his boy, the father of the boy goes with his near relatives to the house of the girl. There they call the near relatives of the girl and put before them the proposition, which is usually accepted. The guests are entertained at a feast by the parents of the girl. To mark the *sagai* (engagement) ceremony, the boy's father presents five rupees and *gur* to the girl's father, who accepts only two rupees, and returns the remaining three. The *gur* is distributed among the relatives. The party stays over-night and in the morning each of them is presented with a *pag*, *dupatta*, coconut and one rupee. Coloured water is sprinkled over them.

Some time later, on an auspicious occasion, the girl's father invites the relatives of the boy to his place. If it is another village, the party stays there for a few days. All the relatives of the girl stand hosts to the party in turn to entertain them with feasts. On return the guests are given some presents. Then, the women relatives of the boy are invited and treated in the same fashion.

At the time of marriage, the groom starts with a party of 20-25 persons for the bride's place. The *barat* stays at the bride's house for four to seven days. On their arrival, they are received by the bride's relatives and seated in a room. The groom's father has with him a purse

for meeting various expenses. In the room the bride's father after putting some money in that purse ties a thread round its opening. It signifies that from now on, he will meet their expenses. *Hath leva*, the marriage ceremony proper, is held at night. Feasts are held to celebrate the occasion and festivities extend for the period of the stay of *barat*. *Lapsi*, a mixture of wheat and jowar in milk, and *puri halwa* are the main preparations. The girl is given dowry in the form of jewellery, money, clothes and animals by her parents. Every *barati* is presented with a turban and one rupee.

As the brides are very young, they return to their parents after a few days. When they reach the age of 14 years, *gouna* takes place, the girl going to her husband's house. At this time, the girl's parents again give some presents to the girl.

Among the Jats, marriage is not allowed within the same got and generally takes place late. A coconut and a rupee, emblems of fertility and wealth are sent to the house of the bride. There, the brotherhood is collected and the contract is concluded by throwing the coconut and the rupee into the lap of the bride. The day is then fixed by the bride's parents and the *barat* which consists generally of 25 to 30 men, reaches the village in the evening. At the appointed time the bridegroom proceeds to the bride's house in red clothes and with a sword in his hand. The village carpenter affixes a frame of wood called a *toran* over the door and this the bridegroom strikes with his sword and enters the house. The *toran* is a cross-barred frame resembling a wicket, and the custom is probably a relic of the marriage by conquest. All castes put up *torans* and as they are not removed, they may be seen on many of the houses. The marriage ceremony consists of *phas* only. The bridal party disperses after a feast next day.

The bride price paid to father of the girl has been fixed by custom at Rs. 84/-. Both the sides have to spend about Rs. 200/- each during the *gouna*, when the bride's father gives turbans to his son-in-law and relatives.

Phera is common among Hindus. The bride and bridegroom go round the sacred fire seven times. It is now recognised as one of the essential ceremonies under the Hindu Marriage Act.

Gouna is the second marriage ceremony. After marriage proper, the bride returns to her parents and remains there till this ceremony is held. To some extent, this mitigates the evil effects of early marriage.

WIDOW REMARRIAGE—The percentage of widows (12.1) in the female population is disquieting. Among the *Jats* as among the *Gujars*, *Malis* and all the tribes of Merwara, widow marriage is the rule and is called *nata*. A man cannot marry his younger brother's widow but may marry the widow of his elder brother. The younger brother has the first claim on the widow's hand but if he does not marry her, any one in the got may do so. No disability of any kind, attaches to the children of *nata* marriage. Young widows are married off by their husband's relations who take money from the second husband. No feast to the brotherhood is given in *nata* and consequently, this sort of marriage is much less expensive than the other. It must, moreover, be noted that a widow cannot contract a valid *nata* marriage except with a man of her own caste. However, the widow is not forced to marry and in all castes, a widow who has no sons retains her deceased husband's property till her death or remarriage. She cannot mortgage it except to pay her husband's funeral expenses, his debts, or to marry her daughters.

The remarriage of widows is also provided for among *Mers*. Twelve days after the demise of the husband, two *orhnees*, worn by females, are placed before the widow from which to make a selection; one being dyed red, and other white. If her choice falls on the coloured mantle, it implies that she preferred remarriage and she is at liberty to be united in wedlock with her deceased husband's younger brother. Her wishes not coinciding in this arrangement, she is allowed to make selection of a husband wherever her inclination prompted. The person who accepts her in marriage, pays the son or brother of the widow a sum varying from 200 to 500 rupees. Thus, in the estimation of these people, a widow is considered of greater value than a young maiden. The money thus realised from the remarriage of the mother, goes to provide the sons with wives. If the widow is desirous of bringing up her family and of remaining at the head of her own domestic affairs, she takes the white *orhnee*. The condition of widows under this custom is infinitely preferable to what it would be if they were forced to remain unmarried all their lives.

The Mohammedan law permits remarriage of widows but curiously enough, the Mohammedan *Khadims* (*Syeds*) of the *dargah Khwaja Sahib* at Ajmer, follow the custom of these called higher Hindu castes. *Rajputs* and *Brahmans* do not practise *nata*. With *Rajputs* the custom of *sati* used to be optional but it is now obsolete.

DIVORCE—Dissolution of marriage in high castes is not permitted. It is prevalent in lower castes and to some extent in *Rajputs*. Among:

lower castes, divorce is allowed in the following castes: Raigar, Mali, Khatik, Teli, Rajput, Gujar, Kumawat, Bhamies and Koli.

OTHER RITUALS AND CUSTOMS—Different social groups have their own customs and traditions which they celebrate at different stages of the life cycle. Among Hindus, child birth is the first in this cycle. No immediate festivities follow the child birth. The birth of a son is a matter of rejoice. On the birth of a son, the daughter or sister of the house brings jewellery for the new born on the eve of Holi festival. In return she is presented a cow, money, jewellery and sweets. On the birth of son among most castes. *Jarula* ceremony is performed when he is a couple of years of age. On this occasion, his hair are cut for the first time as an offering to the deity most respected by the caste and a dinner is given to the near relations. In certain castes, the birth of the first male issue is celebrated by *dasotan*, a dinner to relatives.

Most of the Hindus burn their dead. The exceptions are devotees of Ram Deoji in Merwara and Sadhus and Balais of some sects who bury their dead. Among Muslims, burial is the rule. In the case of inter-marriage between Hindu Mers (*Rawats*) and Muslim Mers (*Katats*), the wife is burnt or buried according to the religion of her husband. Among Gujars, if the family can afford, persons above the age of 30 are taken to Pushkar for cremation. In the case of poor, dead-bodies are cremated outside the village near the bank of some river.

Post-cremation rituals include a twelve day mourning period after which *tehravin* or the thirteenth day ceremony is held. Among Hindus, it is similar to that held in other parts, the only additional feature being that on the thirteenth day, a ceremony is held in which the son or the nearest relative of the deceased goes to a pond outside the village accompanied by six women. The women have on their heads two earthen pitchers each. After filling the pitchers at the pond they return. Back at the place of ceremony, the son or the nearest relative, places two breads on each of the pitchers and cover them with a red cloth. Again, they go outside the village periphery and throw away the water pitchers but bring back the bread and the cloth. The bread is given to the animals but the cloth is preserved. A peculiar feature among the Gujars is that they shave the dead (males only) before cremation.

SUPERSTITIOUS BELIEFS—People believe in the existence of good as well as bad spirits. They are generally superstitious. A lot of good and bad omens are observed. If a cat crosses the way or some one sneezes at the outset, it means that disappointment will be the result.

If, while going out of the house one meets a woman carrying water, it is a good sign.

People have faith in astronomy and astrology. At births and deaths, astrologer, usually the family Brahman, is consulted as to whether it has taken place at an auspicious time. The marriage lagan is performed at an auspicious hour. There are certain inauspicious times when certain things are not to be done.

HOME LIFE

In the towns, and among the artisan and business classes generally, the daily routine is the same as in urban areas elsewhere except that in summer the afternoon break is fairly long. The life of the agriculturist is much different. In the desert area, where there is only one crop (kharif) farming is confined to about five months and the rest of the year is spent in grazing domestic animals. The women rise earlier than the men and spend some time at the grindstones. Fetching water is a major headache and in places where the supply is far from the habitation, the men assist in this task. In fact, the fetching of water for the family and taking the animals down to drink occupies as much as one-third of the working hours in the hot season. In summer, the people go to bed late and rise before dawn, making up for loss of sleep by rest during the day. In winter, however, they sleep only at night. Because of the scarcity of water, bathing is not common. Soap is rarely used, its place being taken by *multani matti* (fuller's earth) for washing the hair and the body.

Life in the rural areas moves at a very slow pace. It is only from June to October that the farmers are busy; for the rest of the year, their only work is to fetch water and look after their animals. However, though time hangs heavily, the lack of water, the shortage of food and the rigours of the climate all add up to a very hard life. Also, the life being such, the people are slow-thinking and resistant to new ideas even those aimed at their economic and social betterment.

HOUSE AND HOUSEHOLDS—The total number of occupied houses in the district at the time of the census of 1951, was 99,501, i.e., about 30 houses per square mile. The average number of persons living in a house was seven. These 99,501 houses were occupied by 1,57,065 households. The size of households varied to a great extent from one or two members to more than 10. In the rural areas, 47.5 per cent of the households were of medium size, consisting of four to six members. This category was followed by small and large categories. In the urban areas, 43.5 per cent of the households were of small size, consisting of less than

four members. This was closely followed by medium size with 41 per cent. Only one per cent of the households had more than 10 members. During 1961 census, there were 1,33,907 houses (93,452 in rural areas and 40,455 in urban areas) in the district and the number of households was 1,87,618 (1,15,897 in rural areas and 71,721 in urban).

DWELLINGS—The houses of the leading native bankers and traders and the *istimrardars* of the Ajmer district, are imposing buildings of masonry and stone, with roofs of the same material. As a rule, these have two or more storeys and one or more open courts to admit light and air. Every house has a *jharoka* or balcony, where the inmates can sit. The windows are small and the dwelling rooms often dark and ill-ventilated. Though frequently covered with lavish and beautiful carvings and ornamentation, these houses are generally built with little regard to ordinary rules of sanitation. In the reception rooms of the *istimrardars* the walls are often covered with paintings of their ancestors. In the villages the houses are small mud huts with tiled roofs. The entrance leads into a courtyard, round which are arranged the dwelling rooms of the family according to its size and prosperity. The cattle are kept in a shed in a corner of the courtyard or in mudfenced enclosures outside. The houses are generally clean. The mudwalls are painted with a mixture of rice and *geru* (red brick powder). The patterns consist of squares and triangles with the names of deities superimposed on them.

FURNITURE—Except for string cots, there is practically no furniture in the average village home. Sometimes, in the mud huts, there are shelves built into the walls for the storage of articles and an alcove for housing the deity. Every family, however, keeps a number of earthen pitchers for storing that precious commodity—water. In the towns, in middle class houses, chairs and tables make an appearance and the homes of the well-to-do are furnished in much the same manner as those of their counterparts elsewhere. The paucity of furniture in the average home is partly off-set by wall paintings of animals and gods and, in some dwelling a picture or two.

In well-to-do families, especially in towns, houses are tastefully decorated and furnished in the modern style.

DRESS—The ordinary dress of a male Hindu of the higher classes consists of a turban which is generally a piece of silk or cotton cloth 30 to 40 feet long and 6 inches broad, with gold embroidered ends, a shirt (*kurta*), a long coat (*angarkha*) reaching nearly to ankles, a short

dhoti worn above the knees and a scarf (*dupatta*). The *kurta* and *agar-kha* are usually made of a fine-textured material resembling muslin, and are generally white. Sometimes silk is also used. The Rajput *istimrars* are fond of wearing embroidered garments and multi-coloured turbans tied in narrow and picturesque folds and have, especially on festive occasions, a martial appearance, which contrasts pleasantly with the silk and fine linens of other wealthy citizens.

The dress of Hindu female of the upper classes consists of a bodice (*Kanchli*), a sheet or veil (*orhni*) as an upper garment, and a petticoat of chintz or coloured cloth. In the case of Mahajans and Rajput women the petticoat sometimes used to be of sixty yards of material but this size is now used rarely. Agriculturists and labourers wear clothes made from a coarse fabric locally manufactured called *reza*. They consist of a turban (*pagri*), a coat (*bakhtari*) extending to the waist, a short *dhoti* worn above the knees and a sheet *pacheora* for a male. People of some castes invariably carry a comb, a mirror, a pipe and a flint stone. The comb and mirror are kept in the turban, and the pipe and flint stone in the *dhoti*. The peasants in Ajmer are usually better dressed than those of Merwara. In rural areas there is little difference in dress between Hindus and Muhammadans. The principal distinction is that Muhammadans wear trousers (*paijamas*) and not *dhotis*. Merats and Chitas, though Muhammadans, however, retain the *dhoti*. Hindus, again, wear their coats with the opening on the right side of the chest, while the Muhammadans have it on the left side. In towns, the latter can be distinguished by the buttoned-up coats of various lengths which they wear together with trousers. A tendency to dress in European fashion, retaining the turban or a small round cap as head-dress, is apparent in the towns.

ORNAMENTS—Men usually wear no ornaments save a string necklace to which amulets are tied. Some classes, however wear ear-rings and in some of the lower classes, a silver bangle on one ankle. The wearing of beads is going out of fashion.

Women, of course, are very fond of ornaments. They wear on the forehead, the *bor* or *tilra*, in the ears *bedla* and *dugla*, *jhumars* with or without *sanklies* and *damni* (ear-rings). The nose decorations are variously known as *kanta*, *phoolari*, *booli*, *nath* and *phini*. The neck ornaments are the *hansli*, *mals*, *kanthi dodni*, *nimboli*, *toosi*, *mooth*, *teriva* or *timania*, *haria*, *kanthla*, *dora* or *tavtiva*. Sometimes more than one of these ornaments is worn. On the hands are worn *chura* with or without gold *pattis*, *kari*, *katriya*, *madaliva*, *churi* (bangles), *anwala*,

sanban, *biliya*, *chur*, *bhajiband*, *gajra*, *punchi*, *gokhru*, *chhalla*, or *hath-ankla*. Round the waist is worn a chain called *kandora* and on the ankles and feet *sati*, *lungar*, *kara*, *makiya*, *anwals*, *chailkara*, *curi*, *rinjhol*, *polaries*, *angootha* and *chantu*. In many cases the ornaments differ only slightly in size or design.

Most ornaments are made of silver, though gold is used in some cases by those who can afford it.

FOOD—The higher classes of Hindus, with the exception of Rajputs and certain Brahmans and Kayasthas, are vegetarians. The staple food grains used are wheat, barley, gram maize, *bajra* and *jowar*, and various pulses. Wheat is generally used only by the richer classes of the community; the peasantry except on special occasions, employ the coarser grains for their thick cakes or rotis. These are eaten along with *dal*, *ghee*, uncooked onions or radishes or chillies. They use only the cheapest kind of vegetables. The wealthier people spread *ghee* upon their wheat cakes or *chapaties* and eat them with one or more cooked vegetables, *dal* and pickles. Dairy produce is consumed by all classes. There is very little difference in the diet of non-vegetarian Hindus and Muslims. Muslims as elsewhere, except perhaps for *Merats*, do not eat pork and Hindus do not eat beef. Muslims as a rule, are non-vegetarians. In the towns generally, only two meals are taken daily, one between 9 and 10 a.m. and the other, before 8 p.m. In rural areas, the *Jats*, *Malis*, *Gujars* and *Mers* eat three times a day. The early meal is called *sirawan* and consists of the food left over from the previous day. The mid-day meal is called *bhat* or *rota* and consists of barley or maize bread, with green vegetables. Similar meal is taken in the evening. People of all the castes smoke tobacco and quite a few still eat opium. Smoke is the common courtesy that is offered to the visitors.

On ceremonial occasions such as marriage and on religious festivals, *gur*, sugar and *ghee* are added to the food. A preparation much liked by the farmers is *seera* (*halwa*) which is wheat flour cooked in *ghee* and mixed with *gur* or sugar. Most castes abstain from liquor which is common only among the Rajputs and the lower castes.

Among Rajputs, the taking of opium is still common though not to the same extent as formerly. At the time of birth and marriage ceremonies and on certain festivals like *Akha Tcej*, opium is offered to guests. The drug is pounded in a round brass vessel with a wooden stick and mixed with water. It is then strained into a cup from which it is poured into the hosts' hand. The guests come up one by one and each,

after a polite show of protests, accepts a drink from the host's hands. Rajputs consider it an insult if a guest refuses opium at his hands. Because of this ceremonial use of the drug and the large number of addicts, the consumption of opium is still fairly considerable. Government policy is to restrict the sale of the drug with the ultimate aim of stopping its consumption completely. It is noticeable that the younger generation of Rajputs is much less addicted to it than the older and the conclusion may be drawn that opium taking is on its way out.

FAIR AND FESTIVALS—The principal festivals are the Holi, the Dashera, Dewali, the Gangor and the *Teja-ji-ka-mela* (the fair of Tejaji) among Hindus, and the Moharram, the two Ids, and Urs of *dargah Khwaja Sahib* among Muhammadans. The Holi and the Dewali are the two great festivals, held all over the country when the spring and autumn harvests are ripe. The Holi festival is attended with some local peculiarities. The Oswals of Ajmer have a procession, which they call *Rao*; a man dressed as a bridegroom and seated on a cot is carried in procession through the Oswal quarters. Men and women play on the *Rao* with long syringes in which they use water and the *gulal* (red coloured powder), which is the distinctive feature of the Holi. Women from the house-tops use their syringes very effectively; while the *Rao* carries an open umbrella to ward off the deluge. In Beawar there is a procession of a much more dignified nature, known as *Badsha*, in which a man dressed as a *Raja* (king) is carried through the streets, with people dancing and singing and occasionally throwing red powder. After passing through the town, the *Raja* is taken to pay his respects to the Sub-divisional Officer.

Another peculiarity of the local celebration of the Holi in Merwara is the game called *ahera*, which is held on the first and last days of the festival in every village. The whole village turns out into the jungle, each man armed with two sticks about a yard long, called *pokhri* or *kutka*. The people then form a line and beat for hares and deer, and, as they start up, knock them over with a general discharge of sticks. The village headman provides opium and tobacco and the bag is cooked and eaten at the feast which ends the day.

The festival of Dewali and Dashera are the same as in other parts of the country. The Gangor festival, which is celebrated by Mahajans, begins a week after the Holi and lasts for 20 days. It is held in honour of the return of Parvati, wife of Lord Shiva, to the home of her parents, where she was entertained and worshipped by her female friends. Ima-

ges of Lord Shiva and Parvati are paraded through the streets with music, and the places where they are kept are illuminated at night.

The Jats worship a variety of gods, including Mata and Mahadeo but the chief object of their veneration is Tejaji, whose legend is as follows¹:

Teja was a Jat of Karnala near Nagaur,² in Marwar, who lived about 950 years ago, and had been married at Rupnagar in Kishangarh. While grazing his cattle, he observed that a cow belonging to a Brahman was in the habit of going daily to a certain place in the jungle where the milk dropped from her udder and fell into a hole inhabited by a snake. Teja agreed with the snake to supply him milk daily, and thus prevent the Brahman suffering loss. Once when he was preparing to visit his father-in-law, he forgot the pact, and the snake appearing, declared that it was necessary he should bite Teja. Teja stipulated for permission to first visit his father-in-law, to which the snake agreed. Teja proceeded on his journey and at Kishangarh rescued the village cattle from a band of robbers but was desperately wounded in the encounter. Mindful of his promise to return, Teja with difficulty reached home and presented himself to the snake, who, however, could find no spot to bite, so dreadfully had Teja been cut up by the robbers. Teja therefore, put out his tongue which the snake bit and so he died. The Jats believe that if they are bitten by a snake and tie a thread round the right foot while repeating the name of Tejaji the poison will prove innocuous. There is a temple of Tejaji at Sarsara in Kishangarh, and a fair is held in July. Tejaji is always represented as a man on horseback with a drawn sword, while a snake is biting his tongue. Nearly all Jats wear an amulet of silver with this device round their necks. Colonel Dixon singled out Tejaji as the patron of the fair he established in his new town Nayanagar. This fair is held about September, on Bhadrapad Sudi 10.

The principal Muhammadan festivals of the Moharram and the two Ids are the same as elsewhere. But an exciting spectacle is added by the sword dance of the Indarkotis, the inhabitants of the Indarkot mohalla of Ajmer city in which 100 to 150 men armed with sharp swords, dance and throw their weapons about them in wild confusion. The Urs of Khwaja Sahib is a fair held at dargah in the month of Rajab (November-December) and lasts for six days. Muhammadans

1. Gazetteer of Ajmer-Merwara by J. D. Latouche (1875) p. 30.

2: *ibid.*

come almost from all parts of the country as well as also from other countries to attend the tomb of the saint, Muin-ud-din Chishti and the yearly number of pilgrims approaches two lakhs and fifty thousand. The proceedings consist for the most part, of recitations of Persian poetry of the Sufi School, at an assembly called the *Mahfil*. The recitations are kept up until 3 O'clock in the morning by which time many pilgrims are in the ecstatic devotional state technically known as *hal*. One peculiar custom of this festival may be mentioned. There are two large cauldrons inside the *dargah*, one twice the size of the other which are known as the large and small *deg*. Pilgrims to the shrine, according to their ability or generosity, propose to offer a *deg*. The smallest amount that can be given for the large *deg* is 80 maunds of rice, 28 maunds of ghee, 35 of sugar and 15 of almonds and raisins besides saffron and other spices. The minimum provisions for the small *deg* is half of these quantities. Besides this, the donor has to pay about Rs. 200 in presents to the officials of the shrine, and offerings at the tomb.

When the gigantic rice pudding is cooked, it is looted boiling hot. Eight earthen pots of the mixture are first set apart for the foreign pilgrims. It is the hereditary privilege of the people of Indarkot and of the menials of the *dargah* to empty the cauldron of the remainder of its contents. After the recitation of the *fatiha*, one *Indarkoti* seizes a large iron ladle, and mounting the platform of the *deg* ladles away vigorously. All the men who take part in this hereditary privilege are swaddled up to the eyes in clothes to avoid the effects of the scalding fluid. When the cauldron is nearly empty all the *Indarkotis* tumble in together and scrape it clean. There is no doubt that the custom of looting the *deg* is very ancient though no account of its origin can be given. It is generally counted among the miracles of the saint that no lives have ever been lost on these occasions, though burns are frequent. The cooked rice is bought also by Mahajans and others, and most castes eat it.

The only other important religious festival of Merwara beside the Tejaji fair is the annual fair held at Todgarh in the month of September in honour of Mata, called from the name of the place Piplaj Mata. Tradition says that the Mers used to sacrifice their first-born sons to this goddess and it is still customary for those who have had a first son born to them during the year, to bring a buffalo to the sacrifice. The animals after the touch of consecration by the priest before the shrine, used to be let loose, and the people, each armed with a knife or a sword cut them alive into little pieces. This barbarity continued till 1865 when on the representation of Mr. Robb, the Missionary at

Todgarh, it was put to a stop and orders were issued the animals should be first killed with a sword. Before the famine of 1868-69 there were some 40 or 50 animals sacrificed and in 1874 there were 18 buffaloes thus offered to the goddess. The officiating priest first stroke the animal on the neck with a long sword; it was then dragged away and cut into little pieces in a few minutes.

It has been already mentioned that there is a distinctly visible tendency among the Merats socially to assimilate with the orthodox followers of Islam and to abandon their ancient customs common to them with their non-Muhammadian brethren. They have abjured the flesh of the wild boar. They have begun to adopt *nikah* instead of the custom of *phera* in their marriages. They have begun to keep their women secluded and to intermarry with persons within degrees prohibited by the ancient customs. The tendency is without doubt, destined to further development till the old customs entirely fall into disuse. Among the Rawats of Todgarh also the tendency to adopt the social rules of Brahmanism as prevailing among surrounding Rajputs is clearly discernible though the assimilation has not gone so far in this case as in the other.

In neither case is there any religious feelings concerned; the question is simply one of greater respectability. Under the influence of the headman of Todgarh the Rawats have entered into an agreement to abstain from the flesh of kine and buffaloes and to excommunicate all transgressors. Now they do not take part in the dismemberment of the buffaloes sacrificed to *Mata*, leaving the work to be done by *Bhils* and *Bulahis*. Representatives of many Hindu sects are found in the district, but the headquarters of the sects are not in Ajmer itself.

AMUSEMENTS—Gymnastic exercises and athletics, sword and lance exercises are the principal games in the towns apart from cricket, football and hockey which are confined to the students in educational establishments. Chess, cards and a kind of draughts known as *chopad*, are the indoor games. Hide-and seek, kite flying, blind man's buff, a kind of touch in the ring and a game called *ghota* (a kind of hockey) are played by children. In the village of Ramsar a sort of organized fight with fists between two sections of the villagers takes place once a year. It is called *mukkirar*. The value of games and sports is on the increase and several tournaments are held throughout the year.

Among the lighter amusements, singing, playing on the fiddle (*sitar*) and flute (*bansuri*) and drum beating are extensively practised.

A kind of rude opera, called the *Rai-ka-tamasha* in which the characters sing and dance all night long to the accompaniment of a drum only, is performed in the streets and is much appreciated by the people. Among the lower classes in the towns, a circus is always popular. In rural areas the grown-up people have no games. Their ordinary amusement is to assemble in the evening at the village *hata* or meeting house and sitting on the platform usually built round a *pipal* or *bar* tree to pass few hours telling tales and smoking. The village children play games similar to those in urban areas. The marriage processions are led by orchestra troupe in the towns and drummers and trumpeters in the villages. Singing to the accompaniment of harmonium is popular on social occasions in towns. Dramatic clubs and cinemas have sprung up in towns and occasionally, some touring cinemas hold shows in the rural areas. *Rasias* and *Keshias* are common folklores in the rural areas. Nature is the central theme in most of the folklores sung by the agriculturists. On special occasions such as marriages, festivals and fairs, special songs meant for the occasion are sung.

NAMES AND TITLES—Unlike the neighbouring Gujarat and some other areas in the country where three names are in general, used for the identification of a male, i.e. the name proper, father's name and the family name, in Ajmer the practice is to use one name only. Occasionally, it happens that two persons with the same name but of different castes, add their father's names for distinction purposes; but this is rare. Each person has his *zat* or family name which is seldom derived from the place of his ancestors and is rarely used in addressing him either by speech or by letter.

Every male of the twice born classes has two names (a) the '*Janam-rasi-nam*', only used at weddings, at death, and when the stars are consulted, and (b) the '*bolta nam*', by which he is generally known. The system of nomenclature is simple and the names are generally of religious origin or are given out of affection or fancy. Instances of the former are Har Lal, Ram Singh, Shiv Charn, and of the later, Sunder Lal, Gulzari Lal, and Pritam Chand. But there is an almost infinite variety of such names. Among the usual suffixes attached to the names, it may be remarked, Chand, Mal, Bhan, Pal and Karan, are principally used by Jains. On the other hand, Datt is exclusively a Brahman suffix, Singh is generally used by Rajputs.

Among the agricultural classes the males usually have one name only, which is a diminutive of a name of a higher class. For example, where a Mahajan or a Brahman would call himself Birdhi Chand,

Bherun Ram or Udai Mal, the agriculturist, whether Jat, Gújar, Mali or Mer, would be known as Birdha, Bherun or Uda. Except in rare instances, the lower classes never use the suffixes Ram, Lal, Chand and the like. Among them the name of the wife often corresponds with that of her husband, as Udi, the wife of Uda.

Childrens' names take diminutive form in 'u' as Moru, Phulu. Occasionally, Muhammedan names are used by Hindus and Jains apparently out of reverence for the Muhammedan saint, whose *dargah* is at Ajmer. Some sections of converted Muhammedans have retained to this day, their Hindu family names.

Among the place names, many villages have names ending in was, meaning place of residence and in wara which means enclosure. Examples are Mangaliwas and Bandanwara.

Impact of Social and Economic Changes

We do not find any basic change occurring in the social structure during the Mughal and the British periods. In most of the cases, the privileges granted to or snatched by sardars were retained by the imperial powers who required the support of a privileged class with a vested interest in their rule. The Marathas levied heavy *fauj kharch* and other dues on these sardars and the latter were willy nilly forced to squeeze these amounts from the tenants. Introduction of British rule brought about peace and stability and with it, a crystallization of the existing social order. They recognized the different grades of *Istimrardars* and henceforth, the might of British empire was there to aid the sardars against their subordinate sardars and the tenants.

Thus the society of Ajmer during the British period could be likened to a pyramid. At the apex of the social order were the few foreign rulers mainly drawn from the Indian Civil Service or the Indian Political Service. Some of them like Mr. Wilder adopted the ways of Indian Princes while most confined their social intercourse to the brother officers or a few *Istimrardars*. Col. Dixon is the only example of a British Officer marrying a local lady and living among his people as one of them. No wonder that he is still affectionately remembered as Dixon Baba.

Ajmer was a common meeting ground for Indian princes who vied with each other to carry favour with the British Officers. The petitions of some of these complaining against the seats allotted to them during the Darbars, make a pathetic but interesting reading. The mode of ad-

dress and the language of these petitions continued to be Marwari during the early period. A later version of Indian prince and the *Istimrardar* was the Mayo educated polished gentleman who could hold his own in the highest social circles and who knowing more about the working of British Imperial System, was not overawed by the local officers.

After the British Officers and *sardars*, came the Indian Officers mostly belonging to the provincial services, the sub-*istimrardars* and the rising classes of politicians, lawyers, doctors and traders. It was from the ranks of these classes that first nationalists entered the scene. However, this class also provided the queer specimen of Indians who took pride in being loyal subjects of the British Empire, more so, if they could expect one or more of the odd assortment of titles distributed during the *Darbars* and the birth days of British Sovereigns.

At the lowest level, were the common masses, i.e., tenants and labourers etc. They did derive some benefit from a stable administration based on law but beyond a certain limit, the British rule strengthened the hands of employers and *Istimrardars* against the employees and the tenants.

Independence has brought about drastic changes. The *Istimrardars* and other privileged classes have already lost their last ditch battles. The abolition of jagirdari and various tenancy and land reforms have made the tiller of the soil master of his own destiny. The jagirdar's *haveli* is no longer the symbol of authority in the village and in most of the cases, he is finding it hard to adopt himself to the new conditions. A few of the jagirdars have entered politics and other trades but most of them are temperamentally unsuited to hard work. With the introduction of democratic decentralization, the stature of the bureaucrat has also been cut down to proper size and a new class in village leaders is fast emerging. Various labour laws operate to protect the interest of the labour.

Thus the common man has benefited considerably. He is able to own land, his economic position has improved as a result of various measures taken under the development programme and the fact that he can now elect his own local leaders, has given him a new sense of dignity. At the same time, it is to be observed that the changes on the surface have taken place at a faster pace than most people specially in the rural areas, have been able to catch up. For instance, the villager, accustomed for centuries, to looking up to his *thakur*, is not yet completely prepared to regard him as mere equal. The ex-landlords still command considera-

ble respect and this factor provides them some relief in the process of painful readjustment. Nevertheless, slowly but perceptibly, the common man is growing in stature to play effective role in the new order.

Together with the landlords, their retainers and hangers-on have been affected by the recent changes and have had to seek alternative employment. A class which is experiencing bad days is the musician class and those who earned their livelihood by singing and dancing or composing ballads. These people used to depend for their livelihood on the patronage of the jagirdars; now that patronage has been withdrawn and being unsuited for any other work, they are ekking out an existence by performing at marriages and other occasions.

Belief in witchcraft is also waning. Long time back, the zamindars of one of the villages of Merwara were collected when one of the party observed that an old woman, a reputed witch, residing in a neighbouring village, had destroyed three of his children, by eating up their livers. The complainant was questioned as to how the occurrence took place. He was unable to do more than state the sad result that his children had died in consequence of the loss of their livers. The Patel of the village, a hale, robust man of sixty, was seated with the party. The complainant was told that if the witch would eat Lala Patel's liver, his story would be entitled to implicit credence. The observation caused a hearty laugh from all present. Some time later, the people were asked whether the witch had eaten up Lala Patel's liver. Ridicule had its full force as was desired and little is now heard of this superstition.

MERS¹

The tract known as Merwara, is popularly designated as Mugra by the Mers which, in the language of the country, means hills, or singly a large hill, while *Mugree* is used as a diminutive. Little is known about the inhabitants of the Mugra previous to the time from which the present Mers date their origin. The territory at that time, must have been a vast impenetrable jungle, offering few advantages to the cultivators and many to the outlaw and fugitive from justice.

The Mers claim descent from Prithvi Raj, the Chauhan ruler of Ajmer. Prithvi Raj, when reigning Prince of Ajmer, is said to have carried on plundering expeditions, robbery and violence of all sorts. In one of his marauding raids, in which the city of Bundi in the Harauti, in

1. A fuller account is given by Lt. Col. C. G. Dixon in his *Sketch of Merwara*.

habited by the caste of Hara Rajputs, was beset and plundered, it happened that, on the day of the attack, the slave girls of Bundi were bathing at a tank out-side the city, celebrating the rites of the Teej. From among these, the besiegers seized and carried off Sehdeo, a girl of the caste of Asawuree Mina. Prithvi Raj gave her to his son Jodh Lakhun, who, as the girl professed to be a Hari Rajputani, took her into his house and she bore him two sons named Anhal and Anup. Jodh Lakhun seems to have lived in perfect confidence of his partner as regards the purity of her caste; when from some source, he conceived a suspicion that he had been deceived. One night he suddenly questioned Sehdeo as to the caste to which she really belonged. His surprise and indignation were great when she told him that she was a Mini and the prince turned Sehdeo with her two sons, out of his house. The mother, accompanied by her two sons, Anhal and Anup, migrated to Chang in Merwara, where they were kindly received by the Chundela Gujars. For five generations the descendants of Anhal and Anup remained at Chang and are reported to have exterminated the families of those very Gujars whose ancestors had so hospitably welcomed Sehdeo and her children.

In the fifth generation, two brothers—Kanha and Kala, were born in the family of Anhal. Kanha and Kala, though sole masters of Chang, could find no one willing to marry their children. About this time, the descendants of Jodh Lakhun sent a force against Chang, with a view to extirpate the descendants of Sehdeo, who were beginning to disturb the country by their depredations. The brothers fled into the higher parts of the hill country and in the course of their wanderings, came to the village of Chetan, in the former Todgarh district. Here is said to have occurred the miracle that prolonged the race of Anhal and was responsible to create the two great divisions of Bar and Chetah. The brothers, reduced to despair by their isolated and outcaste position, rested beneath the shade of a large bargad tree. There they prayed to the deity, that if it was destined that their race should continue, the trunk of the tree under which they stood might be rent in two. As an assurance of it, this event immediately occurred. They then prayed that if it was intended that their two families should inter-marry, the tree might again unite as before. The rent tree immediately restored to its former state, and the progeny of Kanha and Kala intermarried amongst themselves. The clan thus, soon became very numerous and powerful. Kala went to Kulwara in Mewar, and Kanha returned to Chang. Here his male descendants seem to have found the same difficulty in forming alliances with other families, and these circumstances, perhaps, tended to confuse their ideas of caste and its ordinances. They soon began to marry indiscriminately

any woman opportunity threw in their way. Thus, many women of the lowest castes were taken into their houses and became Mer matrons. In this manner, from the descendants of Kanha, sprung the twenty-four clans of Mers comprehended under the general distinguishing title of *Chetah*. The progeny of Kala also formed twenty-four clans, under the common denomination of *Bar*, derived probably from the tree so celebrated in their family history.

The above forty-eight clans of Mers originally professed the Hindu religion. Of the origin of the large family of Merats who profess the Mohammedan religion, or rather a hybrid imitation of it, the following account is given.

A man named Heera, a *Chetah*, took service at Delhi under the emperor Aurangzeb. One night, when Heera was on sentry duty at the gate of the palace, a terrific thunderstorm struck the place accompanied by copious rains. While the rest of the guard sought shelter, Heera stood out firmly and his shield on his head as a protection, and did not move till his duty was over. This conscientious performance won him the favour of the emperor. He is said to have remarked, "In the Marwar tongue they call a stout soldier *Kata*; let this man's title be hereforth *Kata*, for he has proved himself stout and brave." Soon after this and probably to please his new patron, Heera embraced Islam. The emperor is said to have presided at the ceremony and gave him a new name *Kata Daud Khan*. *Daud Khan* later on returned to his native village of *Chang* and from one of his grandsons, named *Mehra*, was derived the name now borne by the whole sect.

Memunt, a Mer of the family of one *Kuroo*, who founded the village of *Kuril*, also embraced Islam when he was taken prisoner by *Allaudin* on some occasion and was renamed as *Memunt Khan*. The emperor bestowed upon him a number of villages in jagir in *Ajmer* and placed a number of roads and twelve passes in his charge. His descendants retained the Mohammedan faith for three generations, and then, having intermarried again with Mers, they returned to Hinduism. This family is called the *Kurilwal* caste, a derivative from the name of the village of *Kuril* mentioned above.

Besides these families which have descended from *Jodh Lakhun* and *Schdeo*, there are as many as forty-six other families that sprang from persons who from time to time, took refuge among the Mers either to escape the consequences of crimes committed by them in their own areas or were driven into exile when ostracised.

About the origin of the caste of Motis, tradition runs that the region of Bhælan was originally inhabited by Brahmins. It was a thoroughfare for *banjaras*, and it is believed that a *banjara* woman went to the cell of a certain *Bairagi*, named Rug Das, who lived in a cave in the mountain now called Mukat. While residing there, she gave birth to twin boys and declared Rug Das to be their father. But from what subsequently transpired, it came to be believed that she was pregnant by some demon or evil spirit before she took refuge in the *Bairagi's* cell. However, Rug Das was very indignant at the charge and immediately turned her and her children out. She was then sheltered by a Brahmin. When the twin brothers were old enough to go about by themselves, the Brahmin employed them to tend his cows and it was then that their demon origin soon became apparent. It is related that these elfish boys seized every opportunity of torturing and ill-using the sacred cows entrusted to their charge. The old Brahmin was so enraged that he drove the mother and sons out of the place. It is not known where they then took refuge but in their progeny in the fifth generation one Mukat was born, who, having conceived a hatred of the Brahmins of Bhælan, waged war against them and assisted by his numerous brethren, succeeded in massacring nearly all of them, and occupied the region. This blood-thirsty individual is still much venerated by the Mers, and the mountain where the *banjaras* brought forth the twin founders of his race, is named after him. He is worshipped especially by his own descendants, the Motis, who still inhabit the Bhælan and for a long time, a cow was sacrificed at his shrine yearly and as the Mers assisted at these rites, it may be imagined that their views of Hinduism were rather lax.

A Brahmin, who escaped this slaughter, fled to the village of Burar which was then inhabited by the caste of Dakul Minas. There he married a Mina girl and, founded several clans of Dakul Mers now extant.

The remaining inhabitants of Merwara belong to a few scattered clans who pass under the general designation of Mers and who as usual, claim to have descended from Rajputs. The Pataliyat clan claims to be of the stock of the Bhati Rajputs of Jaisalmer. The Chaurot claims the same descent. The Bharsal, Bach, Kharwal, Mamnot, Selot, Banat and Banna live scattered in the area.

In this manner the ranks of the Mers of the Mugra were yearly swelled by the advent of men of all classes, who had some compelling reasons to leave their hearth and home. They found the company congenial and lack of social taboos permitted them to marry and settle down.

The inhabitants of Merwara are nominally separated into two religious divisions, Hindu and Mohammedan. The Merats are distinguished as belonging to the Mohammedan persuasion; yet, with exception of being circumcised and burying their dead, all their customs conform to those in use with the Mers. They now give their daughters in marriage to the Mers and take theirs in return. Formerly, the Merats married their daughters to Mohammedans, principally with the Khadims of the Ajmer dargah and occasionally, with the families of Mohammedans of distinction. Gradually however, such marriages have become fewer.

The Mers consider themselves Hindus, but they observe the tenets of this religion very loosely and no one who is brought up according to the tenets of that faith, acknowledges them as associates. They are completely regardless of all the forms enjoined as to ablution, the preparation of their food, and other set ceremonies. Nor do they revere the idols worshipped by orthodox believers of that persuasion. They worship Devi, Deojee, Ullajee, Sitlamata, Ramdeojee and Bhaironjee and celebrate the festivals of Holi and Déwali. Their principal food is corn and barley-bread. They also take freely meat of sheep, goats, cows and buffaloes. No interdiction exists as to the use of liquors, hog's flesh, deer, fish and fowls. Their marriages are conducted after the custom of the Hindus and it is considered an imperative duty to collect all the clan to celebrate the funeral feast of a departed relation.

The Mers still believe in witchcraft though superstitions are disappearing now. A woman suspected of being a witch, used to be submitted to an ordeal and red pepper was applied to her eyes. If she did not feel acute pain, she was considered guiltless of the accusation. Similarly, when the sword was not chosen as the arbiter, to settle the disputes, recourse to *Deej*, a sort of ordeal, was taken and the culprit was submitted to it. This consisted in thrusting the naked hand into a vessel filled with boiling oil, or in taking up a red-hot shot with the hand. Superstition, with its false philosophy, had taught them that innocence would protect the culprit from injury from scalding oil or from burning hot iron. In the virtue of this remedy as a test for guilt or innocence, all held a firm belief. An unusual mortality amongst cattle was attributed to the evil designs of a witch.

In the earlier days, some very odious customs such as sale of women, female infanticide and slavery prevailed among them. It was customary for sons to sell their mothers on the death of their fathers and for husbands, at their own caprice or pleasure, to dispose of their wives. Woman was considered as a property and could be disposed of or transfer-

red with the same freedom and facility as cattle or land. On the demise of the father, the mother lapsed to the sons as a part of the paternal inheritance, and he could sell her at his pleasure, provided he adhered to the rules observed in his own clan.

Though slavery was practised among these people, it did not take the worst form and the slaves were treated humanely. He was considered a property, which could pass from father to son. He was, however, well treated and was allowed to possess property and to marry with the consent of his master. However, the slaves of both sexes belonging to one master, were not allowed to intermarry or to have immoral intercourse as they were viewed as brothers and sisters. Slaves were acquired in many ways. The most productive source was the progeny from male and female slaves. Persons seized in a battle or during plundering excursions, were taken prisoners and were made slaves. The third way of acquiring them was by purchase. Slaves could not become Mers nor could Mers become slaves.

Some kind of wilful servility was also practised among these people to secure protection. Of these, one was known as *chotee-kut*. A man when much oppressed would proceed to one of the chiefs to solicit his protection and cut off his *chotee*, the lock of hair preserved by the Hindus on the top of the head, saying "I am your *chotee-kut*, preserve me from oppression." The chief would place a turban on his head and render him all the support in his power keeping him in his own village. The chief, in return for this, received a fourth of his gains arising from all plundering expeditions. On the demise of the *chotee-kut* his property lapsed to the chief, unless any of the relations of the deceased, resided in the same village.

Another kind of bondage was called *bussee*, which differed from *chotee-kut*. A written engagement was entered into instead of cutting off the lock of hair. All castes could become *bussees* while *chotee-kut* could not be provided from amongst those who leaned towards Mohammedanism.

Oonglee-kut was a third kind of servitude. It was of a milder form than those already mentioned, since the duty and respect paid were that of a son towards a father. Nor was any power exercised over life and property. The ceremony of *oonglee-kut* was performed by cutting off the little finger and giving some of the blood to the chief when protection was accorded. It extended to all castes.

These voluntary bondage owed their origin to the circumstances and have disappeared now.

These people bear the character of being faithful, kind, and generous possessing a strong clannish attachment towards each other. They are bold, very regardless of life and always ready to take their own or that of others for trifling causes. They are easily excited to desperate acts, and as easily subdued by a mild address if time be allowed them to cool. They are much attached to their families. The dishonour of their wives was thought to be avenged by death alone and insult to an individual was a matter of concern for the whole clan. Another source of feud was the breach of promise of marriage. Sometimes, in order to settle the disputes and to satisfy claimants, money or property was placed within a temple or at some other holy spot, when the individual concerned would help himself as far as his conscience allowed. On other occasions, the dispute was decided by one or other party, taking an oath, under the provision that if the swearing party suffered any misfortune by death in his family or loss of cattle or property within a stated number of days, his oath was null and void and his case lost. Feuds not avenged in one generation, were handed down as an heirloom to their descendants, to be dealt with when occasion and opportunity allowed. But now they have taken to civilized way of dealing with things and generally approach the panchayats or courts for settling their disputes.

Though residing in the hills, their stature is by no means low. They are of all sizes, well made, good-looking, active and hardy. They are known to have encountered tigers without any other weapons than swords, but they never boast of their exploits and think that they have only performed their duty in exposing their lives to all hazards.

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Physical conditions in the district vary widely. While in and around Ajmer and Kishangarh plain country is the rule and hills the exception, towards Beawar and farther in the south-western part, hill country is the rule and plain, the exception. There are ranges in Ajmer but they more or less, spring immediately from plains and there is little cultivation among them. Generally speaking, the cultivated soil of what was formerly the Ajmer State, is composed of a mixture of stiff yellow loam and sand, in proportion of one to two. No superficial portion of soil is absolutely clayey and alluvial soil is only found in the beds of artificial tanks. In tracts where euphorbia are common, carbonate of lime is found in large quantities. The richest soil in the district is found among the sand hills of Pushkar where sugarcane can be grown without irrigation. But elsewhere all the most valuable cultivation is irrigated either from tanks or wells. The rainfall is too precarious for dry cultivation. Where it is carried out, the fields are sometimes surrounded by low embankments to retain the rain moisture as long as possible. Irrigated lands are classed as *chahi*, *talabi* and *abi* according to the means of irrigation employed.

The district receives an average annual rainfall of about 20 inches. The southern and south-eastern parts which border the comparatively fertile regions of the State, generally receive more rainfall than the western and north-western parts which border the desert. The average rainfall in Kekri tahsil is in the vicinity of 24 inches while at Roopangarh, it is hardly 15 inches.

Agriculture is the principal occupation of the district as indeed of the state and the country. The number of people engaged in agriculture either as cultivators or agricultural labour according to 1961 Census, is shown below¹:—

1. Source : *Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1962, Final Population Totals.*

	Ajmer district	Rajasthan	India
1. Population			
Males	510,446	10,564,082	226,293,620
Females	466,101	9,591,520	212,941,462
2. Cultivators			
Males	135,463	4,205,067	66,406,765
Females	119,830	2,850,012	33,103,198
3. Agricultural Labour			
Males	8,202	230,193	17,311,474
Females	10,237	163,438	14,170,831

LAND UTILIZATION¹

In 1959-60 the district had an area of 20,57,874 acres of which a net area of 8,36,774 acres was cultivated. Twice cropped area was 2,04,213 acres. In the same year, 94,054 acres or approximately 11 per cent of the net cropped area, was classified as current fallow.

Among other lands not available for cultivation forests occupied a mere 72,406 acres or 3.51 per cent of the total area of the district. A total of 3,05,387 acres was barren land representing 14.83 per cent of the total area and 5.26 per cent, i.e. 1,08,340 acres was put to non-agricultural uses. Permanent pastures accounted for 53,876 acres or 2.61 per cent and a total of 1,46,103 acres was classified as "other fallows". Only 157 acres were shown as under miscellaneous tree crops and groves.

The extent of culturable waste land has fluctuated during the period 1956-57 to 1959-60. It touched the highmark of 442 thousand acres in 1958-59.

1. The discussion in this chapter is based on 1959-60 figures which were the latest figures available at the time of writing. Figures for 1960-61 which became available later have been included in the tables.

LAND UTILIZATION

(a) Cultivated land

Year	Net area sown	Current fallow	Total area of the district	Area sown more than once
1956-57	7,97,101	1,11,729	20,82,305	1,84,191
1957-58	7,51,411	1,36,815	20,53,861	1,24,358
1958-59	8,19,641	1,58,081	20,57,945	1,72,053
1959-60	8,36,774	94,054	20,57,874	2,04,213
1960-61	7,77,391	1,38,197	20,57,874	1,13,052

(b) Uncultivated land

Land not available for cultivation				Other uncultivated land excluding fallow land			
Year	Forests	Barren land	Land put to non-agricultural uses	Permanent Pastures	Land under misc. tree crops and groves	Culturable waste	Other fallows
1956-57	1,21,829	1,31,571	14,91,069	2,72,613	132	2,82,400	2,16,020
1957-58	93,872	1,85,148	1,41,575	1,54,730	216	3,91,500	1,98,594
1958-59	73,733	2,93,031	1,14,965	4,42,131	830	442*	1,00,325
1959-60	72,406	3,05,387	1,08,340	53,876	157	4,40,777	1,46,103
1960-61	64,229	2,96,003	1,27,791	57,988	184	4,54,406	1,41,685

* Figure in thousand acres

* Figure in thousand acres.

The culturable waste land in the district mostly comprises pastures and land lying waste due to salinity and gullies etc. During the Second Five Year Plan, about 2,500 acres of land was reclaimed.¹

Generally speaking, the reclaimed soils are poor in fertility, especially with regard to nitrogen content; the slopy and gullied lands are poorest of all. For saline and alkaline lands, the measures recommended for improving fertility are adding doses of gypsum, scrapping upper strata, use of farm yard manure and green manuring. Another method to combat this aspect is growing crops which can resist salinity and alkalinity. Contour-bunding, terracing etc. are also helpful in soil conservation, in the area.

The per cent share of principal land categories to the total geographical area of the former state of Ajmer and the share of food crops and non-food crops in the total cultivated area for some selected years since 1938-39, is given below²:—

Year	Forest	Not available for cultivation	Other uncultivated land, excl. current fallows	Current fallows	Net area sown	Food crops	Non-food crops
1938-39	3.01	41.46	22.23	15.30	18.01	77.49	22.51
1843-44	3.01	40.27	16.62	12.11	27.93	86.62	13.38
1948-49	3.01	38.15	19.52	17.57	21.74	88.01	11.99
1953-54†	6.50	31.12	6.88	14.28	23.45	86.13	13.87

CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT—At the end of the Second Five year Plan there were 51 farming societies with a total membership of 708. These included collective farming societies, joint farming societies and tenant farming societies.

AFFORESTATION—The district lies on what may be called the fringe of the great Rajasthan desert. There has in recent years, been quite

1. Under the head culturable waste land, for purposes of land records, account is taken only of *banjar* lands but sometimes old fallows are reported as *banjar* and *vice versa*; hence the land records may not always reflect such reclamation.
2. Agricultural Statistics Ajmer State, 1938-39 to 1953-54, Board of Economic Enquiry, Ajmer State.

† In this year 17.77 per cent land was classified as other fallow land.

some thinking about halting the march eastward of the desert. Some measures have also been taken in the district with the same end in view. During the second Five Year Plan, the following schemes were taken in hand:—

ROADSIDE PLANTATION—Roadside plantations serve as a barrier against the march of shifting sand and are also valuable from the point of view of weather. Thirty-two miles of roads have been planted with trees which when fully grown, will check the sand laden winds.

Under the scheme for regeneration of degraded forests, an area of 2,275 acres was brought under plantations of economic species.

Three new nurseries were set up at Pachkund, Kharwa and Ghugra to meet the demand of seedlings of both fruits and forest trees. Two such nurseries already existed at Pachkund and Ajmer. A nursery was started at Kekri during the first Plan but it was abandoned as the land had to be surrendered to Revenue Department for the construction of their buildings.

For a better execution of the plan programme, 1 Ranger, 3 Foresters and 80 Forest Guards received specialized training.

The total expenditure on all the schemes during the second Five Year Plan, came to Rs. 7,77,743 against the total allocation of Rs. 8 lakhs. The scheme-wise expenditure is shown below:—

Scheme	Expenditure
Soil conservation including roadside plantations ..	Rs. 2,34,032
Regeneration of degraded forests ..	Rs. 2,94,181
Forest nurseries ..	Rs. 1,12,980
Building ..	Rs. 57,155
Training ..	Rs. 9,494
Communications ..	Rs. 69,901
TOTAL	Rs. 7,77,743

The following species have been tried in the district for various afforestation schemes: *Acacia-senegal*, *Prosopis juliflora*, *Acacia arabica*.

Albizzia lebbek, *Melia arederaca*, *Acacia catechu*, *Holoptelia integrifolia*, *Anogeissus pendula*, *Pongamia glabra*, *Ailanthus excelsa*, *Dalbergia sissoo*, *Eucalyptus hybrid* and *Bauhinia auriculata*.

As a result of these experiments, it has been found that *Acacia senegal*, *Prosopis juliflora*, *Ailanthus excelsa* and *Dalbergia sissoo* can be utilized with great success under conditions obtaining in the district. The following table shows the percentage of survivals in case of each of the species planted:—

Species planted	Survival percentage
Kumta (<i>Acacia senegal</i>)	80
Vilayati Khejra (<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>)	70
Babool (<i>Acacia arabica</i>)	50
Siris (<i>Albizzia lebbek</i>)	40
Neem (<i>Melia arederaca</i>)	50
Khair (<i>Acacia catechu</i>)	30
Churel (<i>Holoptelia integrifolia</i>)	50
Dhokra (<i>Anogeissus pendula</i>)	20
Pongamia glabra	5
Ardu (<i>Ailanthus excelsa</i>)	70
Shisham (<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>)	70
<i>Eucalyptus hybrid</i>	5
<i>Bauhinia auriculata</i>	25

IRRIGATION

The farmers have to a large extent, to depend on rainfall for their agricultural operations. In 1959-60 about 25 per cent of the net cropped area received any irrigation. The position was almost the same in 1956-57. Canals are there, no doubt, but they irrigate less than 2,000 acres and tube-wells are conspicuously absent. The entire field is thus left to wells and tanks. But as these two sources must necessarily depend upon rainfall for their water supply, rainfall automatically becomes the dominant factor in the agriculture of the district. The tahsils arranged in

descending order according to total irrigated area, are Ajmer, Kekri, Beawar, Sarwar, Kishangarh, Arain and Roopnagar.

The following table shows the area irrigated by different sources during the past few years.

Irrigation by Sources

Source	(Acres)			
	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60
Government canals	—	1,822	1,446	1,855
Tanks	62,673	64,732	58,817	61,002
Tube wells	—	—	—	—
Wells	1,52,489	2,01,930	1,93,502	1,78,456
Other sources	65	109	121	274
Total	2,15,227	2,68,593	2,53,886	2,41,587

Rivers

There is no perennial river in the district. There are however, a number of small rivers like Banas, Khari, Dai, Roopnagar, Sagarmati and Saraswati. A number of irrigation works are in various stages of planning and execution; none has yet been completed. Notable among these is the work of construction of a pickup weir, 1,000 feet long, across the Khari river for feeding the Narainsagar tank near village Jalia in tahsil Beawar. The bund will be $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles long with an average base width of 132 feet and an average height of 24 feet. It will be an earthen dam with a capacity of 718 Mcft. The length of canals will be 25 miles and it is proposed to irrigate 7,000 acres of land out of a total commanded area of 12,000 acres. A small work has been completed on Roopnagar river. It consists of an earthen bund called Untra bund and lies within Ajmer tahsil. The bund is about 2 miles long with an average base width of 120 feet and an average height of 22 feet. The earthen dam will have a capacity of 163 Mcft. The length of canals is about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles and the whole system is proposed to irrigate about 1,200 acres of land out of a commanded area of about 2,723 acres.

Some other works were planned on Sagarmati and Saraswati but were later found to be uneconomical and were therefore, abandoned. A new work is being sanctioned on Dai river.

In 1959-60, government canals irrigated a total of 1,855 acres, 1,605 acres being in Kishangarh tahsil alone and nil in Ajmer and Sarwar tahsils. Beawar, Roopnagar, Arain and Kekri tahsils had 118, 69, 54 and 9 acres respectively.

Lakes and tanks

Physical and meteorological conditions in the district make irrigation a very important factor in agriculture. The idea of tank embankments was one which presented itself early to the minds of those conversant with the district, as means of providing irrigation.

The tanks are generally very shallow and seldom retain any water after the autumn harvest has been irrigated. Col. Dixon attempted at first, to form earthen embankments, but the soil was found so devoid of tenacity that the plan was abandoned.

A report on the irrigation possibilities in the *istimrari* areas of the district in 1909, recorded scant possibilities of constructing new works of any importance as all probable sites had already been utilized. As described earlier in Chapter I, there are four kinds of embankments in the district. The tank embankments under P.W.D. at present number 355. Besides these, 658 tanks are managed by panchayat samitis.

In 1959-60, tanks irrigated an area of 61,002 acres or about one-fourth of the total irrigated area in the district, Kekri tahsil claiming the largest share of 26,501 acres. Ajmer was next, with 10,846 acres, followed by Sarwar with 8,634 acres, Beawar (7,874 acres) and Arain (4,850 acres). Kishangarh had the smallest part of tank irrigated area amounting to only 2,297 acres.

A table recounting important tanks in the district, their capacity, commanded area and actual irrigation in 1960-61 is given in Appendix I at the end of the chapter.

During the second plan period, a number of new construction works were undertaken. These are the Para I and Para II tanks and Karnos and Ajgara tanks. Some pertinent data about each of these, is given below:—

Name of the tank	Approx. length in chains	Average height in feet	Capacity in Meft.	Gross Com-manded area in acres	Length of canals in miles
Para I	101	28	150.34	2,654	5
Para II	125	20	140	3,350	6
Karnos	8	20	10.5	160	2
Ajgara	46.5	28	120	1,400	4.10

Wells and tubewells

There are no tubewells yet in the district. The Underground Water Board is, however, exploring the possibility of sinking tubewells to augment the irrigation potential. One experimental tubewell is already functioning in Pushkar but some more wells will have to be sunk for arriving at definite conclusions. The level of sub-soil water ranges from 30 to 50 ft. Wells as such, form the most important source of irrigation. In 1960-61, there were 56,795 wells in the district. This figure takes into account both old and new wells and the wells temporarily or permanently out of use. The following table shows the tahsilwise break-up of the figure for each category of wells:

Tahsil	Old wells in use		Now wells		Wells not used during the year		Old wells not in use	
	1956-57	1960-61	1956-57	1960-61	1956-57	1960-61	1956-57	1960-61
Ajmer	1,276	12,069	300	561	1,867	2,408	2,643	1,954
Beawar	10,814	9,967	326	228	1,168	1,996	1,413	1,177
Kekri	9,870	10,082	252	164	1,057	1,592	1,239	1,928
Kishangarh	2,014	2,118	32	13	60	89	1,027	1,021
Sarwar	1,219	2,368	25	47	15	227	932	624
Roopnagar	2,157	1,277	15	11	205	126	589	810
Arain	2,235	2,266	22	44	75	23	969	913
Total	27,563	40,839	972	1,068	4,447	6,461	8,812	8,427

There are only a few permanent wells in the district. Generally they, like tanks, depend upon the rainfall percolation for their water supply. In Ajmer tahsil the beds of *nallas* are sandy, and a sufficient amount of water is absorbed during the rains to supply the wells on either side. In Beawar, where the beds are rocky, the wells depend more upon the water which is retained in the tanks. Percolation tends to keep water in the wells as long as there is water in the tanks. When the water of a tank dries and the sub-soil water sinks, the water level in the dependent wells also goes down.

There are only a few places where wells having sufficient capacity can be dug without having to blast the sub-surface rocks. Such wells are known as *akhra* wells. Water in such wells is very often insufficient. These are mostly situated below the tank embankment and the water level in them, depends much on the water level in the feeding tanks. Other type of wells known as *seja* wells are found along the river or stream banks, built in a sandy soil with plentiful supply of water.

The wells in the district have three varieties of water. The largest number of them contain brackish water; next to these are the sweet water wells and the number of those having saline water is the smallest. These varieties have different effects on the kind and outturn of crops and on the nature of soils irrigated.

In 1959-60, wells irrigated an area of 1,78,456 acres or roughly two-thirds of the total irrigated area in the year. The largest area of well-irrigated land lay in Ajmer tahsil, the exact figure being 60,162. Next was Beawar with 44,104, followed closely by Kekri with 19,866 acres. Well-irrigated areas in other tahsils, were Kishangarh 10,221; Arain 8,043, Sarwar 7,683 and Roopnagar 7,532.

Where the water is plentiful, the Persian wheel or *dhimda* is generally used to draw it from the well. In other cases, the ordinary water lift by bullocks with the long pull rope and bucket called *charas* is employed. There are two kinds of *charas* distinguished locally by the names *potila* and *soondia*. The former requires four bullocks and three or four men to work it and can irrigate an acre of land in about six hours. The latter with only two oxen and a single attendant, takes twice as long. Irrigated fields are divided into small beds, *kyari*, some 60 to 100 per bigha, in order to distribute water. In early years of the present century, an attempt was made to introduce iron buckets in place of *charas*, but they were not found satisfactory.

IRRIGATION BY CROPS

(Acres)

Crop	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60
Cereals and Millets				
Rice	155	18	81	78
<i>Jwar</i>	992	443	303	21
<i>Bajra</i>	3,006	875	895	13
Maize	52,585	48,015	21,371	4,279
Wheat	71,237	60,986	70,611	78,254
Barley	84,572	76,385	80,278	80,772
Pulses				
Gram	8,430	7,338	9,590	10,183
<i>Tur</i>	—	—	—	1
Other pulses	767	226	144	18
Sugarcane	295	379	194	236
Condiments and Spices	—	12,445	11,851	14,964
Fruits and vegetables including root crops	—	4,484	4,862	5,552
Other food crops inclu- ding small millets	14,738	117	95	151
Oilseeds				
Groundnut	—	314	19	11
Sesamum	—	417	89	16
Rape and Mustard	—	27	77	35
Others	—	26	104	102
Miscellaneous Crops				
Cotton	33,944	36,198	29,689	23,793
Tobacco	—	32	26	25
Fodder Crops	—	19,820	23,555	22,999
Other non-food crops	21,093	48	52	84
Total under all Crops	2,91,814	2,68,593	2,53,886	2,41,587

Soil Erosion

There are two major types of erosion, viz., wind erosion and water erosion. In this district water erosion is not a very serious problem because all the rivers are monsoon streams. However, when in spate, they cause considerable loss of soil in areas near the banks. There is considerable wind erosion as the loose sandy soil is blown by strong winds. The traditional method of checking such erosion is to plant branches of trees along the boundary walls of fields. These branches offer some resistance (though pitifully inadequate) to the winds.

A scheme of *med bandi* for protecting the fields and conserving their fertility has been introduced in the district and by the end of the second Five Year Plan about 5,000 acres of land had been brought under it.

A pilot demonstration project started in January, 1960, helps agriculturists and their co-operative societies imbibe better and scientific methods of soil conservation. The demonstration project covers an area of 1,300 acres and is situated at Gagwana village. There are only three other projects of such kind in the whole State. The forest department has also taken measures towards soil conservation and an area of 1,500 acres on barren hills has been covered with plantations.

Water Potential

The various small rivers which traverse the district form, for the most part, the main sources of water supply in the district. These rivers are Khari and its tributaries viz., Para I and Para II, Dai, Roopnagar, Sagarmati, Saraswati, etc.

Steps have been taken to utilise the water of Khari river by constructing a pickup weir across the river to feed the Narainsagar dam. The work is in progress on this as well as on other schemes on Para I and Para II. Untra project on the Roopnagar river has as stated earlier, been completed. Works for utilization of Dai waters are being sanctioned.

The waters of Sagarmati and Saraswati rivers cannot be utilized as these rivers meet the Luni across which some dams have been constructed which do not overflow.

AGRICULTURE

Soil and Crops

The main types of soil found are sandy loam in Ajmer, Kishangarh, Rupaigar and parts of Beawar tahsils and loam in Jawaja and Masuda areas of Beawar tahsil and certain parts of Kekri. Black cotton soil is obtained in Sarwar and certain parts of Kekri. Rich alluvial soil is found in beds of artificial tanks. The richest soil, as has been stated earlier, is obtained in the sand hills of Pushkar where sugarcane can be produced without irrigation, as the water table is also high.

According to the *Final Settlement Report of Ajmer-Merwara* (1947) the vast bulk of area (60 per cent) was under *barani* soils, *barani II* alone covered 39 per cent. The *chahi* soil, though first in importance, came next in area and occupied 21 per cent. Most of this area, 6 per cent and 7 per cent was in *chahi I* and *chahi II* classes respectively. The area under *bari* was insignificant. The area under variable *talabi* was 7 per cent while that under fixed one was 2 per cent only. The fixed *abi* accounted for 6 per cent of which *abi II* occupied 3 per cent while variable *abi* was 4 per cent. These soil percentages reflect a pre-eminently dry nature of the area and its great dependence upon rainfall.

The chief crops are wheat, jwar, bajra, barley, maize, cotton and pulses.

Writing of the crops of Ajmer and Merwara, C. C. Watson, wrote thus in 1904:

"The principal crops in order of extent of area cultivated, are maize, jwar, or great Indian millet, barley, cotton, oilseeds, bajra, or bulrush millet and wheat. These occupied respectively 19.9, 18.4, 16.1, 10.1, 7.1, 6.5 and 3.5 per cent of the average cultivated area during the ten years ending 1899-00. Maize is sown in June and July and is harvested in October and November. When irrigation is available, it is watered two or three times. Its average out-turn in cwts. per acre is 1.10 in *barani* land and 7.34 in irrigated land. It is rotated with barley and cotton, the land remaining fallow for the *rabi* harvest before the cotton is sown in *kharif*.

"Barley is always a *rabi* crop. It is sown from 15th October to 15th November and is reaped in April. In irrigated lands it is watered from three to five times and yields an average of 7.34 cwts. per acre. In dry crop lands the average out-turn is only 1.46 cwts. *Joar* [Jwar] is only grown as a dry crop; it is sown in June and July and harvested in Octo-

ber and November, and has an average yield of 1.73 cwts. per acre. Bajra is sown at the same season and also in dry lands only; its average yield is also 1.73 cwts. per acre."

The agricultural situation in Kishangarh at the beginning of the century is thus described in the *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, 1908:

"Agricultural conditions vary in different parts of the State. In the north, where the soil is sandy and rainfall less than elsewhere, there is practically but one harvest, the *kharif*, and the principal crops are *bajra*, *jwar* and *mung*, and *moth*. In the centre, the soil, though still poor, is firmer, the rainfall heavier and there are several irrigation works. Maize and *til* take the place of *bajra* in the *Kharif* while the *rabi* or spring crops consist of barley, wheat, gram and cotton. The areas under principal crops were, in square miles, approximately, *jowar* 40; barley 25; maize 23; *bajra* 17; *til* 17; cotton 11; gram 7 and wheat 5. A few acres are also under tobacco, poppy, linseed and a coarse kind of rice."

In 1956-57 when Kishangarh sub-division was transferred to Ajmer district, a total area of 45,480 acres was under *kharif* cultivation and another 15,963 under *rabi* crops, cropwise details about which are given below:

Kharif

Crop	Total area	Irrigated area	Unirrigated area
Maize	4,812.0	1,556	3,256.0
<i>Bajra</i>	6,642.0	395	6,247.0
<i>Jwar</i>	27,319.0	333	26,986.0
Others	57.5	6	51.5
Total food grains	38,830.5	2,290	36,540.5
Vegetables and fruits	23.0	23	—
Total food crops	38,853.5	2,313	—
Oilseeds	6,626.5	35	6,591.5
Total Kharif	45,480.0	2,348	43,132.0

Rabi

Crop	Total area	Irrigated area	Unirrigated area
Barley	5,180	4,790	390
Wheat	2,013	1,911	102
Gram	4,955	592	4,363
Wheat and Barley	2,191	2,169	22
Barley and Gram	175	109	66
Wheat, Barley & Gram	113	113	—
Total food grains	15,923	10,296	5,627
Vegetables and fruits	40	40	—
Total	15,963	10,336	5,627

Agricultural Operations

Agricultural operations are still carried out under the influence of certain astrological conditions, particular attention being paid to the 27 *nakshatras* and the occurrence of certain auspicious conjunctions.

PLOUGHING—On *Akhatij*, third day of the bright half of *Vaishakh* (May), the farmer starts his operations by harrowing his field twice, first length-wise and then across. When new land is brought into use, bushes and shrubs on it, are cut and either burnt on the spot in order to fertilize the soil or used as fences. The ground is then roughly levelled. This clearing process is called *sur*.

The actual ploughing operations usually begin with the first fall of sufficient rain or even earlier in the case of clayey soils. The ground is ploughed once, twice or three times according to the stiffness of the soil; these three ploughings being respectively called *phar chauk* and *bijari*. In some cases four or five ploughings are necessary. For the *rabi* crops, four to eight ploughings are done in September or October. Either a camel or a pair of bullocks is yoked to each plough, though sometimes donkeys and buffaloes are used. On an average, the ordinary plough turns over half an acre of land in a day.

MANURING—The dung of cow, sheep and goats and village refuse are used as manure. Herders are often paid in kind or cash to graze their animals on fallow fields so that, while so grazing the dung released by them, could provide manure to the fields. The soils are deficient in nitrogen and phosphorous. These deficiencies are being removed through the use of chemical manures, green manures, especially guar and propagation of better agricultural practices.

SOWING—The process of sowing is called *bijari*. The seed is sometimes scattered broadcast, especially in the case of *til*, or sown in lines by means of a bamboo drill attached to the plough. The *kharif* sowing usually begins under *ardra nakshatra* after one or two showers. *Jwar* and other *kharif* crops are sown with the *nai*. Farmers ordinarily wait for the auspicious time (*mahurat*) for sowing which is fixed by the village priest or astrologer.

When the sowing of the *kharif* crop has been completed, the preparation of fields reserved for the *rabi* crops is started. Ploughing is carried out when there is a break in the rains in order to eradicate weeds and open out the soil to absorb moisture. In the month of *Asoj* or *Kartik* ploughing is done for the last time and then the seeds are sown. Wheat is generally sown with the *nai* under the *swati nakshatra* and gram in *hasta*. If the monsoon has been below normal and no rain falls between October and the beginning of November, the sowing of the *rabi* crops may be abandoned in the non-irrigated areas. Generally, seed from the previous year's crop is used, the local belief being that seeds lose their germinating value if kept for a very long period.

WEEDING—The *rabi* crops require no weeding, but 15 days after the *kharif* crops have been sown and the seedlings are about 8 inches high, a harrow is passed between the rows of young plants to remove weeds. Two weeks later, the process is repeated and about a week after this, if the soil is workable, the plants are thinned by hand; for *jwar* and *bajra* the distance between plants ranges from 12 to 18 inches. A week or two after thinning has been completed, the field is weeded by hand (*nindal*).

PROTECTION—From the time the grain commences to form, the crop has to be protected from the ravages of birds, cattle, deer and wild pig. Scare-crows are erected and usually a woman or a boy sits on a scaffold (*dagla*) raised 10 to 12 feet above the ground from which point of vantage, stones can be hurled from a sling (*gophan*). Other

means used to scare away birds and animals are, a whip made from the fibre of sann, called *phatakas*, or beating an empty kerosene tin.

HARVESTING—The reaping (*duchni* or *laoni*) is done by men called *denagivas*, meaning daily wage workers at the rate of about a bigha a day per head. Stalks bearing ears such as *bajra*, wheat and barley are cut with a sickle (*dantli*) while those bearing pods, such as gram, are uprooted. Pulses are mostly cut as whole plants. Vegetables are picked by hand and leafy ones are uprooted. Root crops like potatoes and groundnuts are harvested by digging with spade. They are placed by the reaper in a bag (*jholi*), worn on the body and when the bag is full, the produce is deposited at a pre-arranged spot, whence it is carried by cart or camel to the threshing floor.

THRESHING—The *khals* or threshing floor is usually located in the vicinity of the village site. The ground is made hard and even by watering and ramming with a wooden mallet, after which a coating of cow-dung is applied. The process of threshing is called *gaita*. An upright post (*mod*), about 6 ft. high, is fixed in the centre and a thick wall of brambles is built around.

The stalks are strewn over the floor round the post and trampled by two or four bullocks yoked abreast to the post. This operation is called *gahna*.

WINNOWER—The next process is that of winnowing (*upanna*). After the grain has been released, it is collected in a heap and then winnowed. Three persons are required for the process; one stands on a stool (*tarpava*) about 3 ft. high; the second hands him the baskets of grain and chaff which are slowly emptied into the wind and the third person separates the fallen grain from the chaff with the aid of a broom. The chaff (*bhusa*) is used as fodder for cattle. The cultivators are in the habit of keeping a *dantli* (sickle) or a plough-share (*kusva*) buried in the grain in order to ward off evil spirits.

Rotation of Crops

Though the benefits of crop rotation are very well known to the cultivators, it is practised in a rather haphazard manner.

C. C. Watson described the crop rotation practice as follows: "After the cotton is reaped the land is always left fallow for one harvest before maize is sown on it. Wheat is rotated with maize and barley after which with one intervening *kharif* fallow it is again sown." This

was rather unscientific and taxed the lands too much. This practice is being discouraged now and the farmers are advised to grow wheat after legume and follow wheat with cotton.

Rotation is most common on lands suitable for both *rabi* and *kharif* crop. Such fields generally bear a *kharif* crop in one year and a *rabi* crop, the next year provided that either of the two crops is wholly or partially a pulse; a pulse crop is invariably grown at least once in two years.

There are two main crop seasons, the *kharif* or as it is usually called here, *sawnu* (or *siyalu*) and the *rabi* or *unalu*. The sowing of the *sawnu* (autumn) crops begins with the first rains usually about the middle of June and in normal seasons extends upto August, the crop being reaped between September and November. The *unalu* (spring) crops are usually sown in October and November and are harvested in April and May.

The autumn crops which are by far the most important and the mainstay of the people, are dependent for their early growth on the rain during June and July and on the showers in September, for their full maturity.

A little rain early in October is also very beneficial. In this district late autumn rains are generally light and irregular and cease altogether before September is out.

Except when irrigated, the *rabi* crops fail or thrive according to whether adequate cyclonic rain falls in winter. The principal crops are maize, cotton, *jwar*, *bajra*, *til*, *moong*, *moth*, *urd* and sugarcane and the chief cold weather crops are wheat, barley, gram, spices, tobacco and garden crops.

Major Crops¹

JWAR—*Jwar* is the staple foodgrain of a sizeable part of population especially the poorer classes and is more extensively sown than any other crop, an area of 1,94,562 acres being devoted to its cultivation in 1959-60. *Jwar* needs rather more rain than coarser crops like *bajra* and is therefore, extensively sown in the eastern and south-eastern tahsils. It is generally sown after the monsoon has set in properly, i.e., after the middle of July and is ready for harvest in late October or November. In some areas

1. Tahsilwise area statement for crops for the years 1957-58 to 1960-61 is given in appendix II at the end of the chapter.

where irrigation is available jwar is sown early in summer for fodder purposes and this crop is ready at the end of May or in early July.

Jwar is grown throughout the district but the proportionate contribution of the tahsils receiving more rains is comparatively greater than that of the less rainy ones. In 1959-60, Kekri was the largest contributor with 56,726 acres, followed closely by Ajmer with 53,406 acres. Kishangarh came next with 24,804 acres. The crop occupied 19,652 acres in Beawar and 19,180 acres in Sarwar tahsil. Arain had 11,766 acres and Roopnagar came last with 9,028 acres.

The average yield is 128 lbs. per acre. When the crop is ripe, the heads are cut off and the stalks (*karab*) are carefully stacked and subsequently given to cattle. If owing to insufficient rain, the crop is not thriving, the stalks are often cut while green and stored for fodder. This is called *chipt* and fetches a higher price than *karab*. An important aim in growing jwar is production of fodder which fact also dictates the method of cultivation.

MAIZE—As maize also requires a fair amount of water, it is cultivated mainly at places where rainfall is sufficient, the total acreage in 1959-60 being 1,19,759. It was sown in 1959-60 in all tahsils, the individual acreages being Beawar (33,955); Kekri (32,560); Ajmer (26,623); Arain (9,146); Sarwar (8,678); Kishangarh (7,598) and Roopnagar (1,199). The crop completely fails in years of low rainfall. Sowing begins after the monsoon has set in. Interculture is needed between the end of August and the middle of September and harvesting is done in October or early November. The average yield is 536 lbs. per acre.

BAJRA—It is sown with the first fall of sufficient rain in late June or early July and takes 70 to 90 days to ripen. Bajra compares favourably with jwar as a food but the stalks called *kharia* are saltish and are consequently sparingly used as fodder but are suitable for thatching huts. The crop is sometimes grown alone but more commonly, mixed with moong or moth. It is seldom watered or manured. It does best when the climate is moderately dry. Bajra never yields as large a crop as jwar and it requires more ploughing and weeding than that grain. When the crop is four or five inches high, the weeds and grass are cleared. Timely rainfall in August is beneficial and the crop is ready for harvest by the end of September or early in October. Thrashing is done only after the rabi sowing, till which time the crop is stacked in heaps covered with grass for protection.

The parched ears of *bajra* are called *punkh* or *sars* and are eaten. *Bajra* is chiefly used as a bread grain and its *khich* is also highly relished mixed with *moong*.

In 1959-60, *bajra* accounted for 60,444 acres. It is grown throughout the district though in 1959-60, Sarwar contributed a mere 29 acres and Arain and Kekri 324 acres and 330 acres only respectively. Ajmer had the largest share of 29,836 acres or almost half of the total area under the cereal. Other acreages were Roopnagar (20,301), Beawar (4,871) and Kishangarh (4,753).

WHEAT—In 1959-60, the main *rabi* crop, wheat was grown over an area of 1,36,064 acres, a total exceeded only by the *kharif* crop of *jwar*. Kekri tahsil had 62,784 acres under wheat followed by Ajmer (31,179), Beawar (18,114), Sarwar (12,639), Kishangarh (4,714) and Arain (4,738). Roopnagar had only 1,896 acres.

The wheat crop is of two kinds—*piwal* and *sewaj*. The former is grown on land near wells and is irrigated. If irrigated by saline water, it is called *kharchia* and if by sweet water *mithania*; the first variety is considered superior.

The ground is prepared for wheat during the rainy season by repeated ploughings. Sowing begins about the middle of October and seed is applied at the rate of 60 to 100 lbs. per acre. The crop requires three to seven waterings depending on local conditions. Interculture is necessary in January and the crop is harvested between April 10 and May 15.

As the crop is usually very dry when harvested, it can be threshed almost at once. The roasted green ears, called *holas*, are much relished, while the straw, known as *khalla*, is used as fodder.

The second of the two kinds of wheat, namely; *sewaj*, is grown on flooded land near the rivers known as *rel* or *relani*. The ground is prepared as in the case of *piwal* and when the rains cease, the fields are ploughed to absorb the water. There is no irrigation as such. The wheat produced on such land is called *katha* and is inferior to and consequently, cheaper than that produced by well irrigation. Average yield is 862 lbs. per acre.

BARLEY—The barley crop, like wheat, requires careful tillage and soil preparation. It is grown only on irrigated land in normal years but

in seasons when the rivers have been in spate, it is grown on flooded land near the rivers. The sowing period is from October 20 to December 15 and interculture is required in January. The harvesting period is from March 25 to April 15. It was grown all over the district in 1959-60, though here too, the role of some tahsils was more marked than others. Of the total area of 1,06,734 acres devoted to the cultivation of barley in 1959-60, 28,620 acres lay in Kekri, 26,675 in Ajmer, 25,540 in Beawar, 7,371 in Sarwar, 6,866 in Kishangarh, 6,738 in Arain and 4,924 in Roopnagar. The average yield is 924 lbs. per acre.

PULSES—Gram is grown as a rabi crop throughout the district. In 1959-60, it was grown on 2,950 acres in Roopnagar, 10,807 in Arain, 13,443 in Kishangarh, 16,396 in Sarwar, 21,028 in Beawar, 46,370 in Ajmer and 47,367 in Kekri. The total acreage under the crop in the year was 1,58,361 and average yield 380 lbs. per acre.

Tur was cultivated on small patches, the total acreage amounting to only 35. Ajmer, Sarwar and Roopnagar cultivated no tur in 1959-60. Kishangarh was largest contributor with 19 acres. Kekri had 8 acres, Beawar 6 and Arain 2 acres under tur. Some pulses such as moong and moth are also sown as kharif crops, the total area occupied by such other pulses (both kharif and rabi) in 1959-60 being 74,835 acres.

OILSEEDS—Though a number of oilseeds are grown in isolated patches, sesamum is the only one which is widely cultivated. In 1959-60, the area of 77,879 acres under sesamum accounted for approximately 85 per cent of the total area under oilseeds. It was cultivated in all the tahsils, the acreage contributed by each being, Ajmer 18,653, Beawar 7,158, Kekri 22,054, Kishangarh 10,717, Arain 7,886, Sarwar 5,553 and Roopnagar 5,858. Soil preparation for sesamum starts immediately after the first regular monsoon showers and the sowing period extends upto the end of August. Interculture is usually done in October and harvesting season is in November.

Groundnut occupied an area of 3,597 acres in 1959-60. Kishangarh, Arain and Roopnagar had only 10, 11 and 3 acres respectively under the crop. Ajmer was the largest contributor with 1,619 acres followed by Kekri with 1,273 acres, Beawar (436) and Sarwar (245).

Castor seed is grown occasionally and during the period from 1955-56 to 1959-60, was sown only in 1958-59 on 134 acres out of which 132 acres lay in Ajmer tahsil. The remaining 2 acres were in Beawar.

In 1959-60, rape and mustard together, covered an area of 230 acres some being sown in all tahsils except Sarwar and Kishangarh. Beawar tahsil contributed 110 acres followed by Ajmer (79), Kekri (17), Roopnagar (20) and Arain (4). Rape and mustard belong to the *rabi* group of crops. The soil is ploughed after the rains and sowing is completed by the middle of November. Interculture is carried out from the middle of December to the end of January and mustard crop is harvested in the later half of March. Rape is usually ready in February.

Linseed was cultivated on 729 acres in 1959-60. The largest area of 490 acres lay in Kekri followed by 175 in Ajmer, 42 in Sarwar, 21 in Beawar and 1 in Arain. Kishangarh and Roopnagar did not grow any linseed in the year.

An area of 2,332 acres was under other oilseeds in 1959-60.

COTTON—Only cotton and sesamum among the cash crops are cultivated on a mentionable scale. Cotton is grown in all tahsils though in 1959-60, the share of Roopnagar (2 acres) and Kishangarh (128 acres) was rather insignificant in the total area of 41,259 acres under that crop during the year. Other tahsils, arranged in the ascending order were as follows: Arain (1,918), Sarwar (4,414), Ajmer (7,617), Beawar (10,492) and Kekri (16,688).

SUGARCANE—General soil character in the district is not conducive to the cultivation of sugarcane on a large scale. But at places, such as the Pushkar valley, deposits of rich soil occur frequently and sugarcane is raised without irrigation. The total area under sugarcane in 1959-60 was thus rather small, being 750 acres only. Ajmer tahsil naturally had the largest share of 536 acres followed by 207 acres in Kekri. It was not cultivated in Kishangarh, Arain and Roopnagar while small patches of 5 and 2 acres were devoted to its cultivation in Beawar and Sarwar respectively.

Sunn hemp was cultivated in 1959-60, on 337 acres out of which 138 acres were in Kekri, 88 in Arain, 84 in Ajmer, 20 in Kishangarh, 4 in Sarwar, 2 in Beawar and 1 in Roopnagar.

Among other crops in 1959-60, tobacco occupied 29 acres and indigo 8 acres while 37 acres were classified as being under other dyes and tanning materials.

CONDIMENTS AND SPICES—Condiments and spices are also rarely grown though the cultivation of chillies and cardamoms is fairly regu-

lar in most of the tahsils. In 1959-60, a total of 4,108 acres was under chillies, Ajmer and Beawar vying with each other with 1,287 and 1,286 acres respectively. Kishangarh was next with 642 acres followed at some distance, by Kekri with 457 acres and Arain (317). Sarwar had 68 acres and Roopnagar 51 acres under chillies in that year. Cardemoms occupied only 117 acres in 1959-60. Acreage in individual tahsils were Ajmer 66, Beawar 21, Roopnagar 10, Sarwar 9, Kekri 6, Kishangarh 4 and Arain 1.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES—Because of the semi-arid nature of the area, big fruit gardens are practically non-existent. In 1959-60, an area of 1,315 acres was devoted to the growing of fruit, mainly in the tahsils of Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri. Of this total, mangoes occupied a meagre area of 29 acres and bananas and grapes one acre each. Pome fruits occupied 713 acres and citrus fruits 111 acres. Vegetables are also grown principally in the tahsils of Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri. In 1959-60, potatoes occupied 72 acres, singhara (water chestnut) 34 acres, sweet potatoes 121 acres and onions 68.4 acres. Other rabi season vegetables were grown on 2,335 acres and kharif vegetables on 1,892 acres. The principal vegetables grown are cauliflower, cabbage, lady finger and tomato. Thus fruit and vegetables combined, accounted for an area of 6,453 acres. During the past three years, the area under fruits and vegetables has increased considerably. The district agricultural authorities are prone to attribute this increase to availability of greater irrigation facilities, provision of better seeds and plants and control of pests and diseases.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

Production of Crops in Ajmer

(In Tons)

Name of the crop 1	1956-57 2	1957-58 3	1958-59 4	1959-60 5	1960-61 6
<i>Bajra</i>	6,580	9,760	9,824	9,295	10,592
<i>Jwar</i>	5,867	11,460	14,323	11,114	16,264
Maize	20,312	30,814	29,494	28,657	44,218
Wheat	75,325	33,934	44,487	52,301	36,613
Barley	46,342	33,558	52,037	44,050	30,869
Rice	224	43	47	112	8
Small millets	36	124	207	32	46
<i>Tur</i>	4	—	4	4	3

Name of the crop 1	1956-57 2	1957-58 3	1958-59 4	1959-60 5	1960-61 6
Other <i>Rabi</i> pulses —		5	9	1	3
Gram	27,166	12,092	23,563	26,894	3,813
Other <i>Kharif</i> pulses	4,073	1,711	2,598	5,346	1,168
Sugarcane	6,020	8,568	2,173	2,290	4,090
Chillies	1,070	1,344	828	916	1,920
Potatoes	75	105	61	54	17
Ginger	—	—	—	—	—
Sesamum	2,998	2,746	3,756	3,685	1,093
Rape & Mustard	31	15	140	22	176
Linseed	47	22	54	61	52
Ground nut	192	224	372	513	1,093
Castorseed	—	—	1	—	—
Tobacco	12	7	8	5	4
Cotton (in bales of 392 lbs. each)	22,831	19,244	16,086	4,861	10,976
Sunn Hemp (in bales of 400 lbs. each)	57	49	68	125	88

Crop pattern

The crop pattern has remained largely unchanged over the years. This district does not grow sufficient grain to feed the increasing population and, therefore, the emphasis must remain overwhelmingly, on food crops. There is also the important fact that crops like cotton, tobacco and other cash crops, spices, fruit and other vegetables, all require irrigation which is still not available in sufficient measure in this area.

During the second Five Year Plan the area under fruits and vegetables, has increased by about 28 per cent. Much of this increase can be attributed to improvement in irrigational facilities and efforts of the agriculture department in the matter of seed and plant distribution and control of plant diseases and pests.

* Source—Statistical Abstract 1958, 1960 and 1961.

As regards the introduction of new crops, seed of better varieties of maize, wheat, barley, sugarcane and cotton are being distributed. Groundnut and hybrid maize are becoming popular. The latter of these, gives as much as twice the yield of the local strain and has a very large cob. Potato, sweet potato, mustard and castor are being popularized too.

Implements

As the soil is light and deep ploughing exceptional, a single pair of bullocks is generally sufficient for draught. The agricultural implements are similar to those used in the plains of Uttar Pradesh and have no distinctive features. Attempts are being made to introduce improved types of implements but the progress has been slow as such implements are in short supply. Thus in 1959-60, there were only 131 iron ploughs as against 65,625 wooden ploughs. In the *kharif* season succeeding the great famine of 1899-1900, hand ploughs drawn by men were tried to make up for the deficiency of cattle. Some land was brought under cultivation by hand ploughs but they never became popular and disappeared in the early years of the present century.

The field implements used by the agriculturists are largely of the old type. The main implements are ploughs, harrows, levellers, clod-crushers, seed-drills and hoes.

The cold-crusher (*kuri* or *savar*) is a heavy log dragged over the fields by bullocks to level the ground and gather together some of the weeds. The indigenous plough, leveller, etc., are also made of wood, the seed-drill being of bamboo.

Apart from these bullock-drawn implements, there are several hand tools used in agricultural operations. The main tools are the *kurhad* (axe), *kuladi* (pick-axe), *phawada* (spade), *khurpi* (weeding hoe), *dantli* (sickle), *kovata* (bill-hook), *panar* (crowbar) and the *dantali* (rake with wooden teeth). These are usually made by the village carpenter or iron smith.

The principal harvesting tool is the *vila* (sickle). The *kuladi* (pick-axe) is used for harvesting root crops. The *phawada* (spade) is used in repairing and making bunds and water channels and filling the field with soil and manure. The *panar* (crowbar), either wooden or iron toothed, is used for collecting and removing waste materials from the fields. Each working member of a cultivator's family possesses a *khurpi* and a *dantali*. The *kovata* and the *kurhad* are used for cutting shrubs

and trees, respectively. With the *panar* (crowbar) clods and stones are lifted and holes dug.

The agriculture department is trying to popularize the use of better implements. *Khurpi* is being sought to be replaced by the hand hoe, which is now used in large numbers. The difficulties in the way of introduction of other more efficient implements are manifold. The village blacksmith with his limited technical knowledge and crude methods, is unable to attend to the repair of advanced type of implements. The general poverty of the peasantry constitutes another hurdle. Then, the bullocks and other animals used for draught are generally weak and underfed. As such they are unable to withstand the additional strain of heavier iron implements. Lastly, lack of sufficient number of trained persons to demonstrate the use of complex (at least for the simple farmer) implements presents a serious difficulty. The problem is being attacked from many sides. The livestock is being improved through controlled breeding and training is being given to an increasing number of persons in the use of better implements.

The following table shows the main agricultural implements in use in the district during the period 1957-61.

Name of the implement	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
Ploughs (Wooden)	62,357	63,525	63,525	65,625	68,105
Ploughs (Iron)	124	97	97	131	
Carts	27,311	29,871	29,907	26,854	34,252
Oil Engines	47	115	184	156	174
Electric Pumps	23	20	20	25	52
Tractors	54	44	44	367	69
Sugarcane Crushers					
(Power)	3	1	1	—	115
(Bullocks)	83	140	140	137	
<i>Ghani</i> (crushing capacity less than 5 seers)	831	656	668	698	
<i>Ghani</i> (crushing capacity more than 5 seers)	132	—	—	—	954
Persian wheel	—	—	—	—	145

Seeds

In order to improve yields the district agricultural authorities are distributing improved types of seed for various crops. As regards wheat, three varieties obtained from the Durgapura farm near Jaipur, viz., C-591, NP 718 and RS 31-1, have been tried with success. For *bajra* the *jakhana* variety from Alwar, is being distributed. For maize, the *ranjeeti* hybrid quality obtained through the Rockfellar Foundation of the United States of America, is used. Thus, for the major crops improved varieties of seeds are being popularized. Unfortunately, however, supplies are still very short. During the Second Five Year Plan the department was able to distribute the following quantities of seeds:

Seed	Quantity (Mds.)
Wheat	.. 1,25,373
Barley	.. 3,938
Gram	.. 8,719
Jwar	.. 286
Maize	.. 2,869
Bajra	.. 84

The department maintains a farm at Tabiji, about 7 miles from Ajmer for maize breeding.

There are 5 departmental seed stores in the district with a total storage capacity of 400 tons. These stores are situated at Ajmer (capacity 200 tons), Sarwar, Kekri, Roopnagar and Beawar (capacity 50 tons each). Besides, each panchayat samiti has a seed store of its own. Some co-operative societies have also built their seed stores.

Manures and Fertilizers

In dry crop areas manure is not used but in the irrigated lands owing to the general poorness of the soil, heavy manuring is absolutely necessary. Much of such land is cropped twice in the year; there is little scientific rotation and no rest, so the necessity is sufficiently apparent. The salty soil towards Ramsar gives excellent crops when heavily manured, but without it, is almost worthless. A full manuring of *chahi* or *talabi* lands requires 360 maunds to the acre every third year, but this is a rate not often achieved. The greater proportion of the cattle dung in the district is kept for purposes of manure. That of sheep and goats is more valuable. Ashes, house-sweepings and vegetable manures are also used to some extent. Nightsoil is in considerable demand as manure among the villages near the towns.

The district agricultural authorities are trying to popularize the use of manures and in 1960-61 distributed 58,797 tons of town compost. The following amounts were distributed in some previous years:

1956-57	7,415 tons
1957-58	16,591 tons
1958-59	16,178 tons
1959-60	12,773 tons

Efforts are being made through the development blocks to induce the villagers to give up the use of cow-dung as fuel. The municipal committees also distribute town compost for use as manure. Artificial fertilizers are also in use but at present, in small quantities. The quantities distributed through the Agriculture Department from 1956-57 to 1960-61 were as follows:

Fertilizer	Quantity distributed (1956-61) (Tons)
Ammonium Sulphate	1704.951
Ammonium Sulphate Nitrate	29.27
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	35.959
Super Phosphate	155.021
Urea	26.400
Bone Meal	12.230

Agricultural Finance and Marketing

The amount of *takavi* loans distributed during the second Five-Year Plan is given later in this chapter. Besides the assistance rendered by the government departmentally or through panchayat samitis, the agriculturists depend on the money lender and the agricultural credit societies. The loans advanced by the latter during the last two years are given below:

	(Amount in Rupees)
1959-60	27,73,704
1960-61	16,78,620

The relative importance of the various agencies of finance in the district, is discussed in the chapter 'Banking, Trade and Commerce' where the results of a sample survey carried out in 1960-61 are also given.

There are six agricultural marketing societies in the district situated at Ajmer, Beawar, Kishangarh, Kekri, Bijainagar and Nasirabad towns. These have a total membership of 406 societies and 997 individuals. Further details about agricultural marketing, e.g., mandis, arrivals, etc. are given in the chapter, 'Banking, Trade and Commerce.'

The Rajasthan State Warehousing Corporation has four warehouses in the district, one each at Kekri, Ajmer, Beawar and Kishangarh. These are run in hired accommodation and as such their capacity is not fixed. Godowns are hired and released according to demand. These warehouses had received upto the end of the II Plan, a total deposit of 665 tonnes as follows: Kekri 351, Ajmer 272, Beawar 4 and Kishangarh 38. In 1960-61, the warehouses handled the commodities mentioned against each:

Kekri: Wheat, gram, barley, maize, jwar, moong, cumin, gur, mustard, seed, ground nut, super phosphate, calcium ammonium nitrate and desi sugar.

Ajmer: Wheat, gram, pulses, maize, moong, urd, ground nut and coriander.

Beawar: Gur.

Kishangarh: Grain, wheat, cumin, barley and maize.

Agricultural pests and diseases

The most destructive *kharif* crop pest is the *phadka* (*Hieroglyphus nigrotrepetus*). There are two species of this pest; the one which is green when young and remains so even when adult, is known as *phadka* while the other variety locally known as *dhebri*, is of dark brown colour when young and gets black when adult. The *phadka* is a hopper resembling the locust and measuring from 1½ to 2½ inches. Though present throughout the year, it intensifies its activities during the monsoon, attacking the *kharif* crops of jwar, maize and pulses. While eating the leaves or other parts of the plant, it emits a poisonous black liquid which penetrates in the portion of the plant where fruiting takes place; fruiting is thus checkmated and growth stopped. The main insecticides used against it are 5 to 10 per cent benzene hexachloride (B.H.C.), aldrin and calcine arsenate. Katra has also occasionally visited the district and has done some damage to *kharif* crops. Monkeys and rats are to be found in small numbers in the Pushkar valley and damage to crops by these, is not much. Locust damage used to be considerable till about

a decade back, but the concerted efforts of the anti-locust organization of the Government of India and international co-operation aided by specialised agencies of the United Nations, have been able to control the menace to a certain extent and it has been possible to reduce the extent of damage thus caused. The anti-locust organization comprises two sections known as the Intelligence and the Technical wings. The Intelligence wing patrols the susceptible areas and provides information on locust breeding, visits of swarms from outside and their course, etc., the Technical wing goes into action on the strength of this information. Bajra is attacked by *Rodhkhiri* (strige) in August. The pre-emergence course is to treat the soil with 2-4-D sodium salt, one acre being sprayed with 100 gallons of water mixed with 1¼ lbs. of the salt. The post-emergence treatment has to be stronger; the proportion of the salt is increased to 2 lbs. per 100 gallons of water.

The main pests of the *rabi* crops of wheat and barley are termites (*Odontotermes cyclotermes*) which is active throughout the year, Aphids (*Rhopalosiphum maidis*) which operate in December and January and the surface grass hopper which causes damage in October and November. Termites are treated by mixing five to ten per cent BHC with soil at the rate of 10 to 15 lbs. per acre. Aphids are sprayed with nicotine sulphate and dusted with five per cent BHC. The latter remedy is also applied to grass hopper. The most important disease of barley and wheat in the district, is the ear cockle which is treated by eradication of affected earheads. Stem borer (*chilozonellus*) attacks jwar and maize. The stubbles are collected and burnt after the harvest is over. Red hairy caterpillar (*Amesectamoorei*) sometimes attacks maize during August in which case it is dusted with 10 per cent BHC or DDT. Early stage caterpillars are sprayed with 0.25 per cent BHC. Another pest attacking the maize crop in August-September, is Army worm (*Cirphis unipuncta*). It is dusted with five per cent BHC sprayed with 0.25 per cent DDT. The main pests of gram are cutworm (*Agrostis ypsition*) attacking in November and Podborers (*Adisura atkinsoni*) which operate in January-February. The former is dusted with 5 per cent BHC and the latter sprayed with 0.25 per cent DDT. Wheat bren poison is also used as bait for cutworms.

Among oilseeds, *til* is prone to damage by a kind of caterpillar known as *Antigastrea catalaunalis* in August-September. A strong dose of 25 per cent DDT mixture is used against it. Mustard is attacked by Mustard aphid and sew fly (*Athalia echinus*) in December-January; these are controlled by a spray of 0.1 per cent DDT.

Cotton is attacked by as many as 10 pests during the period July-October, some operating throughout the period. These are the Jassids (*Rumposaca devastansse*) in July, pink bollworm (*Platerragossy piella*) from August to October, spotted bollworm (*barias insulana*) from July to October, cotton leaf roller (*sylapta derogata*) from August to October, red cotton bug (*Dysdercus cingulatus*) between August and October, cotton aphids (*Aphis gossypil*) from July to September, dusky cotton bug (*Oxecarenius latus*) from July to October, cotton semil-coper (*Cosmophita indica*) from July to August, cotton whitefly (*Bemesia tabaci*) and grey weevil (*Myloccerus maculosus*) from August to October. Five per cent BHC powder or solution and DDT varying in strength between 0.25 and 5 per cent are used against most of these. In the case of *Sylepta derogata*, rolled leaves are picked and destroyed. for cotton aphids, nicotine sulphate solution (40 per cent) is used.

Among vegetables, onion is attacked by *Thrips tabaci* and brinjal by lacewing bug *urentius echinus*), stemborer (*Engophara particella*), fruit and shotborer (*Laucinodes orbonalis*), ephilachna beetles (*Ephilachna ciginticetopuctata*), and jassids (*Empoasca devastataus*) in December and January. Most of these are treated with BHC and DDT. In the case of borers, affected shoots, fruits etc. have to be removed before the pesticide is sprayed. Lady finger is attacked by jassids and fruit borer from October to February, the latter also affects tomato crop during the same period. The potato pests are tuber moth, cutworm and *Ephilaccha* 12 (*Punctata-mul*) and *Ephilaccha* 28 (*Punctata Falere*) which are active generally during winter. Tuber moth continues its menace till April. To guard against this, potato tubers are covered in the field with earth, while for cutworm affected crop, the irrigation water is charged with crude oil emulsion. The usual insecticides (BHC and DDT) are also used. Cauliflower and cabbage are attacked by caterpillar. The treatment is spray with five per cent BHC.

The diseases of rust, smut, mildew, etc. are not rampant, though not altogether absent. Powdery midew in zeera and rose has been successfully controlled by sulphur dusting.

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

The district Agriculture Office, in conjunction with the panchayat samities, tries to improve crop production by suggesting better methods of cultivation through actual demonstrations, supplying better seeds and fertilizers and taking steps to eradicate crop pests and diseases. During the second plan period, 86,000 tons of compost and 3,400 tons of che-

mical fertilizers were distributed and Rs. 45 lakhs were spent on irrigation works. A 180 acre farm at Tabiji was set up for multiplying better maize seeds.

The departmental activities also extend to land improvement and distribution of loans. On the occasion of Pushkar, Kekri and other fairs, film shows and village leaders' camps are organized.

Takavi loans are distributed regularly to help agriculturists improve their farms and also during lean years to relieve distress. The following amounts were distributed during the second Five Year Plan period:

Purpose of loan	(Rupees)				
	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
Sinking of new wells and deepening of old wells	3,60,000	19,325	—	3,67,000	86,000
Development of village tanks	—	—	11,500	42,150	—
Pumping sets	40,000	—	—	—	46,000
Other purposes	—	21,251	55,000	—	—

Research Institutions

The only research station in the district is the Tabiji farm, about seven miles from Ajmer city. The farm set up as part of second Plan schemes, occupies an area of 180 acres and is being used for departmental research schemes on hybrid maize and millets. Some other schemes at present in hand, are concerned with weed control and finding out requirements of fertilizer doses by different crops.

Agricultural Colleges and Schools

The D.A.V. College at Ajmer offers teaching facilities in agriculture upto graduation standard leading to the degree of B.Sc. (Agriculture) of the University of Rajasthan. Intermediate classes were started in 1955-56 and they were raised to degree standard in 1959-60. With a teaching staff of nine, the college offers tuition in the following subjects: Agronomy, Genetics, Animal Breeding and Veterinary Science, Economics and Statistics, Agricultural Botany, Zoology, Entomology, Agricultural Chemistry, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Farm Management and Extension, Horticulture, Agricultural Engineering and Plant

Pathology. The college has its own 125 acre mechanized farm which provides practical training to the students. In 1960-61, there were 117 students in the intermediate and 49 in degree classes. Agriculture is also taught as an optional subject at lower levels in a number of Multi-purpose Higher Secondary Schools in the district.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Area under fodder crops

The area under fodder crops in 1959-60 was 39,462 acres i.e., 1.8 per cent of the total area of the district. The following table shows the area under fodder crops since 1956-57.

	Acres
1956-57	31,156
1957-58	26,290
1958-59	42,139
1959-60	39,461

In 1959-60, total fodder available from all sources amounted to 94,689 maunds. The production of certain individual fodders was as follows:

	Maunds
Cowpea	1,600
Urad	3,000
Moong	18,000
Moth	5,400
Kulth	1,480
Guar	1,402
Gram	30,746
Green fodder	6,75,570
Kadbi	39,15,660
Gram chaff	3,842
Guar chaff	1,402
Cereal chaff	3,685
Green grass	7,500

The most common grasses in the district are *sairan* (*Ischoemum saxum*) one of the best fodder grasses, *Surwala* (*Heperopogn contortus*) or the spear grass, *Bhangta* (*Opluda aristola*) and *Lanpla* (*Aristada Depressa*) an inferior grass.

A survey conducted on the basis of 1956 livestock census figures showed that the total grazing land of 3,18,902 acres was insufficient for the cattle population of the district; the availability per cattle working out to 0.32 acres only. However, in years of sufficient rain, the district is largely self-sufficient in regard to fodder. In years of scarcity, herders migrate eastward during the distress returning with the first signs of improvement in the conditions. During such years, the government opens fodder depots where fodder is sold at subsidized rates.

Old time practices are still very much in vogue as regards conservation and stocking of fodder. The department of animal husbandry is advocating the giving of fodder in the form of *kutti* (chopped fodder) rather than *karab* in order to avoid wastage. Loans and subsidies are given to villagers for the purchase of chaff cutters. Use of fodder troughs is also being popularized. Lectures and demonstrations are also given about fodder conservation in silos.

CATTLE—Owing to lack of any large pastures and permanent water supply, the district is not well adapted for systematic cattle and horse breeding. Formerly, large numbers were kept, and were grazed upon the hills and village pasture lands during good seasons and were taken to Malwa and more favoured districts when the rains failed. The enclosure of the forests, however, tended to reduce their number to what was actually required for agricultural purposes, as the village pastures became more limited. However, the opening of free grazing in the forests leaves a valuable source to feed the cattle and save it in famine times.

The most common breed found almost every where in the district, is the *Gir*, which is also locally known as *Renda* or *Ajmera*. The *Gir* is a dual purpose animal, but the milk strain is considerably higher than in *Hariana* and *Mewat* breeds. The average weight of fully grown up animals is 700-900 lbs. The average milk of the cow per day is 20-26 lbs. The prevailing colours are red, black, yellow or spotted. It is in great demand for the dairy industry. The most characteristic feature of the *Gir* is its broad forehead which often goes deep into the head and covers the eyes so as to make them look like closed. The animal thus gives the impression of being in a perpetual slumber. The ears

which are usually long and slooping, are open towards the front and look like rolled leaves. The horns assume a peculiar shape. Originating from the fringe of the forehead, they slope down or backwards first, go forward after a slight rise and then form a concave curve; they are pointed at ends. The skin is loose, flexible and of good quality and hair small and glossy. Feet are black and of medium size. The waist is straight and strong.

The *Hariana* breed is mainly found in some parts of Kekri. This is also a double-purpose animal, females possessing a good milk strain and males having good draught qualities. The bulls are in great demand in the northern parts of the country. It can be profitably bred for beef alone as the average carcass is very large and heavy with fat. The bullocks are used for pulling heavy loads and for drawing water from deep wells. They are very helpful in ploughing heavy, loam or clayey soils. The average weight is about the same as that in Gir, average milk yield being lower (14-20 lbs.) per cow per diem. The prevailing colours are white, grey and silver grey. *Hariana* animals are of strong and presentable build. The raised head makes it look stubborn and majestic. The face is long and pointed and forehead is flat. A bone is raised perceptibly high in the middle of the forehead which is a characteristic sign denoting breed. Nostril is broad and black. Eyes are big and shining. Ears are comparatively small, being about a foot long and have a slight droop. Horns are from 4 to 9 inches long and are shapely. The horns are thinner in females than in males. They are almost straight when small but slope inwards as they grow in size. Sometimes, horns shaking at the roots are found in *Hariana* animals, but such variety is generally not favoured by the breeders. The neck is long, sleek and beautiful in females. It is thicker in males and looks smaller on account of a big and developed hump which usually contracts after the animal has been castrated. Legs are of average length and feet are black and hard. The waist is long and straight. In the cows, the hind is slightly raised, thigh muscles are flat and hips are broad and soft. The tail is generally thin and comes more than half way down the hind legs; it has a black tuft. Udders are of average length, the front ones being bigger than the other two. The skin is soft which sticks to the body and varies between 0.3 and 0.6 inches in thickness.

The *Nagori* breed is found mainly in the Roopnagar tahsil. It is a purely draught breed. The bullocks are regarded as the best in the whole of India for all kinds of agricultural operations. They have great stamina and surefootedness in work on medium heavy soils or in pulling heavy weights. Being leggy, they are very good and fast trotters.

They are famous for their speed in carts and raths and are in great demand throughout the country and fetch considerable prices. The Nagori breed is not suitable for purposes of beef. The carcass weighs between 700-800 lbs. The prevailing colours are white, grey and silver-grey.

In 1959-60, there were 5,42,787 cattle in the district.

Goshala Development Scheme

Under this scheme a number of goshalas in the district, are being given aid to enable them to develop into scientific breeding centres. The following goshalas have been selected in this regard:

1. Pushkar Goshala, Ajmer.
2. Seeta Goshala, Ajmer.
3. Budha Pushkar Goshala, Pushkar.
4. Beawar Goshala, Beawar.
5. Narsingh Goshala, Nasirabad.
6. Vijay Goshala, Bijainagar.
7. Madhunesh Goshala, Kishangarh.
8. Kekri Goshala, Kekri.
9. Hatundi Goshala, Hatundi.

These goshalas maintain roughly 1,225 heads of cattle of which nearly 141 are un-productive, lame, blind and so on. Among productive ones, there are about 329 pure Gir and *Hariana* breed animals.

Goshala Development Scheme was started in 1945-46. It was discontinued during the upheaval after partition and was revived in 1948. In the beginning, the goshalas were mere asylums run on purely sentimental grounds. A government scheme was introduced in 1953 to distribute pure *Hariana* cows to goshalas at 50 per cent of the original cost and 62 such cows were given to form the nucleus herd. Pure breed bulls have also been posted in the goshalas to upgrade their cattle. Goshala herds have been divided into productive and unproductive sections. Efforts are made to improve goshalas into scientific breeding and milk producing centres. Improved varieties of leguminous fodder grass and silage making have been introduced in the goshalas of the district.

Since the commencement of the scheme, the goshalas were given subsidies for purchase of fodder and concentrate, maintenance of government stud bulls, purchase of dairy equipments and rearing of male and female calves.

Subsidies for the first three purposes have been stoped since 1957-58.

Staff of the department and technical officers visit the *goshalas* regularly and give free technical advice on problems connected with proper feeding, breeding, management and disease control and provide treatment.

An area of 600 acres is now being cultivated for fodder by the *goshalas*, while previously they had to depend entirely on market supplies.

In order to relieve the strain of unproductive animals, a good number is sent to the *Gosadans* (none in this district). Under the second Five Year Plan a provision of Rs. 1,50,000 was made for intensive development of the *goshalas*. The target and the achievements are as follows:

Scheme	Target	Achievement
Development of <i>goshalas</i>	6	7
Production of milk	10,000 mds.	10,642 mds.
Distribution of cows	60	70
Distribution of bulls	6	7
Production of pure breed calves	150	180

Modern cattle byres have been built in the *goshalas* under the second Plan. For this purpose, the government has given an ad-hoc grant of Rs. 5,000/- to each *goshala*. In addition, the government has given ten pure breed cows and 1 bull to each of the selected *goshalas*. The *goshalas* have also purchased an equal number of cows out of their own resources. An amount of Rs. 2,000 is being given as feed subsidy to each of the selected *goshalas*, annually.

Cattle shows and cattle rallies are held in every *goshala* during *gopashtami* week; prizes are awarded to best competitors in each show. Besides, elocution contests for students on subjects connected with milk and cattle are held each year and cash prizes awarded.

Trained managers have been posted in each of the selected *goshalas*.

These *goshalas* are being gradually converted into scientific cattle breeding and milk producing centres to augment the supply of wholesome milk.

The *goshalas* have produced 180 pure breed calves and have so far made 24 good bulls available to the government, panchayat samitis and public.

The table below shows milk produced by the *goshalas* at their beginning and in 1960-61.

Year	No. of cows in milk	Yearly milk yield
1948-49	144	2,972 mds.
1960-61	114	10,642 mds.

BUFFALOES—Buffaloes are largely to be found in the tahsils of Beawar, Ajmer and Kekri. There is no indigenous breed; Murrah is being propagated through the supply of pure bulls of the breed. Unfortunately, the supply of such bulls is limited and the progress as such is unavoidably slow. In 1959-60, buffaloes numbered 1,57,939.

CAMELS AND HORSES—The camels are generally of the baggage type and numbered 2,925 in 1959-60. There is no particular breed of horses also, but Marwari is generally found all over the district. Among domestic animals, the horse has always stood first with fighting and valorous races. In this district, in certain areas, the *thakurs* have long bred horses which are known for their hardiness and ease of pace. They grow to a good height and though light-boned, can carry heavy weights and go long distances without food or water. About 1,500 horses are brought for sale every year to the Pushkar fair. The total number of horses in the district exceeds 4,500.

SHEEPS AND GOATS—Sheep are very important to the economy. In 1959-60, the district had 5,12,866 sheep. The number of sheep per square mile is about 159. The important breeds are Marwari and Malpura.

The Marwari sheep is stockily built. It is black-faced with medium or short ears and is a hardy animal. The Malpura breed is well built. The face is extremely light brown and appears completely white from a distance. The ears are short and the tail long or medium.

The Marwari ewes weigh between 50 and 65 lbs. while rams of the same species tip the scale anywhere between 60 and 80 lbs. The Malpura ram weighs between 60 to 75 lbs. and the ewe, between 55 to 65 lbs.

There has been no attempt to introduce exotic breeds like the Merino because such animals are unlikely to survive the rigours of the climate and the lack of lush grass. The supply of breeding rams is thus, of necessity, confined to Marwari and Malpura breeds.

Sheep breeding and allied industries provide employment to a large number of people. The average wool yield is 8 to 12 *chhataks* for the Marwari breed and 6 to 12 *chhataks* for the Malpura breed. The Marwari breed takes 2 to 4 clippings every year while the Malpura breed takes only 2. The Marwari breed produces medium and coarse grades of wool and the Malpura, varieties of coarse wool only.

There is a Superintendent for Sheep and Wool Development stationed at Ajmer and attached to the District Animal Husbandry office. Eleven sheep and wool extension centres have been opened in the district at Pisangan, Kekri, Srinagar, Bhinai, Masuda, Bijainagar, Arain, Roopnagar, Beawar, Jawaja and Todgarh. Details about the work in these centres are given later in this chapter.

The main breed of goats found in the district is the Sirohi. In 1959-60, goats numbered 2,69,444. Most of the goat population of the district is in the three tahsils of Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri. Goats are kept as domestic animals by a majority of rural families.

Sheep and Wool Development Scheme

Under the Ram Breeding Scheme started before merger in 1956, the Government of Ajmer had imported 873 Rams of *Chokhla* and *Nali* breed from different parts of Rajasthan. These rams were supplied to prospective breeders in the development blocks on 75 per cent subsidy for upgrading the inferior type of indigenous sheep of the State. The details of their supply are as follows:—

	Number of Rams
Pisangan Block	155
Masuda Block	138
Jawaja Block	110
Kekri Block	254
Srinagar Block	167
Harijan Welfare Deptt.	21
Other Villages	28
TOTAL	873

During the Second Plan, sheep and wool extension centres were started in concentrated areas with the help of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in order to produce breeding rams in large numbers and to study the percentage of lambing and wool production in rural conditions by selective breeding; 11 such extension centres were established in Ajmer District as follows:—

Name of the Centre	Year of establishment
Pisangan	1958-59
Kekri	"
Srinagar	"
Bhinai	"
Masuda	"
Bijainagar	1959-60
Arain	"
Roopnagar	"
Beawar	"
Jawaja	"
Todgarh	"

These centres are acting as demonstration units for popularising various methods of sheep breeding, wool shearing and classing, maintenance of data, disease control and marketing of wool. Each extension centre is at present under the charge of a Stock Assistant who is trained in sheep and wool management technique. He is assisted by two shepherds. The Stock Assistant is responsible for the implementation of programmes on the above lines under the guidance of the Superintendent of Sheep and Wool. The Council initially fixed targets of 3,000 to 5,000 ewes to be brought under controlled breeding in each centre. More than 30 stud rams of pure breed were posted at each centre. Till September, 1959 the centres remained under the direct control, administratively as well as technically, of the department of Animal Husbandry but their administrative control was later transferred to the respective panchayat samitis.

The present methods of shearing of wool in the district, are very defective and existing methods of wool collection do not represent most of the varieties of wool, grown. The quality of wool varies from sheep to sheep, breed to breed and region to region. Generally, the flock-masters shear the wool whenever and wherever they like, in any fashion they choose and mix all sorts of vegetable material, sand and even mignies (dung) of sheep in the wool fleece and roll it up.

Unless the sheep is shorn scientifically and the wool systematically classed, it would not be possible to sort out the different qualities of wool. In order to improve this state of affairs and introduce proper wool grāding and marketing, community shearing sheds are being built at the following places :—

1. Masuda
2. Pisangan
3. Bhinai
4. Srinagar
5. Kekri
6. Beawar
7. Jawaja
8. Todgarh
9. Bijainagar
10. Arain
11. Roopnagar

The progress achieved in each of the Sheep and Wool Extension centres is shown in the table below:

OTHERS—Other domestic animals include that useful beast of burden, the donkey which numbered 5,798 in 1959-60. Mules numbered only 20 in that year and pigs 3,414. Poultry numbered 15,017 in 1959-60.

POULTRY DEVELOPMENT SCHEME—Under this scheme a poultry farm was started at Ajmer as an experimental measure during the first Five Year Plan. It was made permanent later and a building was also constructed during the second Plan period to house the farm. There is a total of 1,550 birds, the two main species being White Leghorns and Rhode Island Reds, the latter having been obtained from the United States of America through the Technical Co-operation Mission. There are also three poultry extension centres at Ajmer, Kishangarh and Beawar. The farm, in the first year of its existence (1953-54) produced 17,159 eggs out of which as many as 12,819 were sold for the table and 2,752 were hatched. The income in the first year amounted to Rs. 3,467. In 1959-60, the production of eggs had increased to 41,243, of which 8,539 were distributed through extension centres, 970 were hatched and 2,062 were sold for the table. The income rose to Rs. 13,606.93.

FISHERIES—Under the fisheries development project, three tanks, viz., Bir, Foy Sagar and the Cantonment tank at Nasirabad have been developed as stocking tanks. Mirror carp type of fish have been obtained from Simla and released in these tanks as under:

Tank	Number released	Date of release
Bir	500	July, 1961
Foy Sagar	200	June, 1961
Cantonment tank	250	June, 1961

Improvement measures

A number of schemes aimed at improving the livestock in the district are being implemented by the Animal Husbandry Department. The need for such schemes dawned as early as 1894 when the Rajputana Veterinary School was opened in Ajmer with the idea of supplying veterinary assistants for Rajputana. At the same time, a Civil Veterinary Department was started with a view to improving the breeds of cattle and horses. An European officer held the combined appoint-

ments of Principal of the Veterinary School and Superintendent of the Civil Veterinary Department. This arrangement continued till 1941 when as a result of the visit and the recommendations of the Animal Husbandry Commissioner of the Government of India and the Director of the Veterinary Research Institute at Mukteshwar, the Government of India decided to establish an independent Animal Husbandry Department for Ajmer State. A technical officer designated as the Animal Husbandry Officer was thus appointed in September, 1941. This department worked till 1956 when Ajmer State merged in Rajasthan. Since 1956, the district has a District Animal Husbandry Officer who is under the control of the Director of Animal Husbandry, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

A number of schemes were submitted as a part of postwar reconstruction plan. These were under two broad heads, Grow More Food Campaign and Postwar Development Schemes. The schemes under Grow More Food Campaign were (1) Animal Health Scheme (2) Cattle Development Scheme, (3) Dairy Development Scheme, (4) Goshala Development Scheme, (5) Poultry Development Scheme, (6) Development of Small Animals Scheme and (7) Scheme for the training of staff. Postwar Development Schemes were also detailed on almost the same lines. These schemes were started in 1947-48 but soon came the partition of the country and they were as such stopped. Soon afterwards a revised plan was submitted which was partially put through.

KEY VILLAGE CENTRES—There are six Key Village centres in the district at Ajmer, Beawar, Nasirabad, Kekri, Masuda and Bhinai. Of these, the one at Ajmer is classified as an urban insemination centre. All the centres have facilities for artificial insemination. The following table shows the work done by these centres during the last few years:

Centro	Date of opening	1956-57		1957-58		1958-59		1959-60		1960-61	
		N†	AI‡	N	AI	N	AI	N	AI	N	AI
Ajmer	6.7.1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	708	—	—	1,176
Beawar	2.12.1952	423	664	294	1,050	294	1,241	229	1,023	159	911
Nasirabad	1.7.1959	—	—	—	—	—	—	179	84	815	188
Kekri	13.10.1955	498	167	64	453	79	743	58	553	177	418
Maşuda	1.11.1956	—	—	8	3	—	572	155	150	297	631
Bhinai	1.10.1960	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	126

† N : Natural Service

‡ AI : Artificial Insemination

A number of other schemes aimed at improving the stock in the district, are also being implemented. These are given along with the descriptions of the different livestock categories.

Besides these, a number of schemes are administered through the panchayat samitis. Under the Bull Premium Scheme, which aims at making the district self-sufficient in stud bulls, pure gir bulls and calves are subsidized at the rate of Rs. 10/- each till maturity when they are purchased by the government and made over to breeders. Seventeen calves are being subsidized at present under the scheme. Under another scheme, the Purchase Subsidy Scheme for bull calves, breeders are given Rs. 200 as government share in the cost of purchasing a calf aged one year or less. The animal is then subsidized till maturity. The scheme entailed an expenditure of Rs. 29,000 till the end of second Five Year Plan and 50 bulls have benefitted through it. A third scheme helps private breeders to set up cattle and sheep breeding farms. Under yet another scheme, development of the whole village is planned so as to make it a model for others to emulate.

Under the third Five Year Plan a cattle breeding farm is being set up at Ramsar, 22 miles from Ajmer with a view to producing gir bulls. The farm will occupy an area of 1,422 bighas and will eventually maintain 100 gir cows and 6 breeding bulls.

Veterinary Hospitals

There are 11 veterinary hospitals and 9 dispensaries in the district. During 1960-61, the hospitals and dispensaries treated a total of 1,04,319 cases, 23,093 cases were supplied with medicines and 13,644 castrations were performed.

The following work was done by the staff on tours during 1960-61 :

	Number
Treatment for contagious diseases ..	41,689
Treatment for non-contagious diseases ..	41,441
Castrations ..	32,701
Inoculations and vaccinations ..	41,013

The names of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries are as follows:

Place		Date of opening
HOSPITALS		
Ajmer	..	Transferred from Distt. Board in 1897.
Kekri	..	"
Beawar	..	"
Pushkar	..	1955-56
Masuda	..	1955-56
Pisangan	..	1955-56
Bhinai	..	1955-56
Nasirabad	..	1956-57
Bijainagar	..	1958-59
Arain	..	1956-57 (Date of transfer from Kishangarh)
Sarwar	..	1956-57 (Date of transfer from Kishangarh)
DISPENSARIES		
Srinagar	..	1955-56
Jawaja	..	1955-56
Kharwa	..	1947-48
Sawar	..	1947-48
Todgarh	..	1958-59
Ramsar	..	1958-59
Bana Sindari	..	1960-61
Baghera	..	1960-61
Rupnagar	..	1956-57 (Date of transfer from Kishangarh)

Besides, a mobile veterinary dispensary has also been functioning in the district since 1957. The table below shows the work done by it since 1958-59.

Year	Days toured	Villages visited	Treatments	Inoculation	Castration	Operations	Average
1958-59	353'	442	12,747	6,663	3,515	47	46
1959-60	264	433	14,368	4,724	3,400	69	67
1960-61	282	459	17,191	4,949	2,239	82	69

Animal Diseases

The most common cattle diseases are pleuropneumonia or mota rog (which had the fatality percentage of more than 88 in 1960-61), rinderpest (mata) and haemorrhagic septicæmia. The lesser diseases are the foot and mouth diseases, surra, anthrax and black quarter. Before the introduction of modern veterinary facilities (and even now in the more remote areas), herders used to apply certain traditional herbal remedies which were sometimes effective in less serious cases.

Camels are afflicted by two diseases locally called kalia and tibarsa respectively. An animal attacked by the former is said to shiver, fall down and expire. The indigenous treatment is to slit the ears and, if no blood issues, the animal is left to die. Tibarsa is a sort of remittent fever, lasting sometimes for as long as three years; the patient avoids sitting in the moonlight, seeks shade and gradually wastes away.

* The diseases of the buffalo are jhenja, a skin disease disappearing in three days if promptly attended to and chiri, an affection of the lungs, causing the animal to run at the mouth and refuse food and terminating fatally within 12 hours if proper remedies are not applied.

Goats suffer from (i) galtiya, a disease of the throat, which can be cured by lancing the affected part where a poisonous fluid has collected, (ii) burkiya, when the animal goes round in a circle till it exhausts itself, falls and expires, (iii) pephuria, an affection of the lungs and (iv) mata (rinderpest) which is very fatal when it appears and usually carries off more than half of the flock.

The sheep is immune from rinderpest but anthrax sometimes assumes epidemic form. Among other sheep diseases, mention may be made of sheep-pox, pleuro-pneumonia and parasitical diseases. The Sheep and Wool Development Superintendent looks to the implementation of eradication schemes on the technical side and actual work of treatment and preventive inoculation is looked after by various hospitals and the Animal Husbandry Extension Officers in their own areas.

The following table shows the deaths among livestock from the various diseases during 1960-61:

Disease	Attacks	Deaths
Equines		
Glanders	—	—
Surra	9	2
Dourine	127	7
Anthrax	8	—
Other contagious and parasitic diseases	61	15
Total	205	24
Other causes	1	1
Cattle		
Rinderpest	512	76
Haemorrhagic septicaemia	1,091	196
Foot and mouth disease	3,827	20
Black quarter	1,286	70
Anthrax	179	39
Surra	66	27
Other contagious diseases	8	4
Other parasitic diseases	290	27
Total	7,259	459
Other causes	21	8
Buffaloes		
Rinderpest	183	90
Haemorrhagic septicaemia	358	60
Foot and mouth diseases	544	—
Black Quarter	130	29
Anthrax	43	—
Surra	581	—
Other contagious and parasitic diseases	5	—
Total	1,844	179
Other causes	462	3
Sheep		
Anthrax	38	26
Sheep Pox	710	60
Pleuro-pneumonia	892	787
Foot and mouth diseases	292	—
Scabies	875	—
Other contagious and parasitic diseases	1,850	158
Total	4,657	1,031
Other causes	948	9

Disease	Attacks	Deaths
Goats		
Anthrax	258	—
Goat Pox	258	6
Pleuro-pneumonia	—	—
Foot and mouth diseases	155	—
Scabies	50	—
Other contagious and parasitic diseases	464	—
Total	1,185	6
Other causes	7	1
Dogs		
Rabies	58	21
Other contagious and parasitic diseases	66	4
Total	114	25
Other causes	70	—
Poultry		
Rainkhet	96	45
Fowlpox	11	—
Spirocheetosis	40	32
Cocciidiosis	—	—
Other contagious and parasitic diseases	—	—
Total	147	77
Other diseases	10	—
Camels		
Surra	44	3
Mange	11	2
Pleuro-pneumonia	—	—
Other contagious and parasitic diseases	14	1
Total	69	6
Other causes	—	—

There have been no serious epidemics during the last five years. However, with a view to eradicating rinderpest and other diseases, a mass immunization unit has been working in the district since 1954. A Statement of its work upto 1960-61 is given below:

Kind of inoculation	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
Goat Tissue Virus (for Rinderpest)	3,368	12,794	26,272	96,580	1,52,959	66,259	75,416
Anthrax	—	—	—	3,075	—	614	—
Black Quarter	—	—	—	3,917	1,331	1,646	—
Haemorrhagic Septicaemia	—	—	—	2,363	1,881	3,508	—
Total	3,368	12,794	26,272	1,05,935	1,56,171	72,027	75,416

Cattle Fairs

There are more than 15 cattle fairs in the district held at various places and at different periods. The most important of these is the cattle and horse fair at Pushkar which is held during winter every year. Two other important fairs are held at Kekri, and one each at Sampla, Sarwar, Roopnagar and Tilonia. There are some minor fairs also. Details about the livestock brought and sold at these fairs during 1959-60, are given below:

Name of the fair	Cattle		Buffaloes		Horse	
	B†	S‡	B	S	B	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cattle fair, Kekai	800	800	500	40	15	—
Teja Fair, Kekri	150	40	30	—	5	—
Cattle fair, Baghera	2,700	1,200	400	60	10	—
Cattle fair, Deogaon	30	30	50	—	3	—
Cattle fair, Madanganj	—	—	—	—	—	No record kept
Cattle fair, Pushkar	19,574	8,133	776	301	1,653	656
Cattle fair, Bandanwara	—	—	—	Figures not available		
Cattle fair, Bhinai	2,041	327	9	9	—	—
Cattle fair, Sampla	3,000	135	200	3	—	—
Cattle fair, Hingonia	2,500	103	600	200	—	—
Cattle fair, Sarwar	8,600	—	2,500	—	8	—
Mataj Lamna cattle fair, Lamna	—	—	—	—	Figures not known	
Cattle fair, Kharwa	—	—	—	—	Figures not known	
Cattle fair, Roopnagar	5,500	1,533	2,000	349	70	5
Teja cattle fair	1,000	60	—	—	—	—
Cattle fair, Tilonia	10,758	1,614	820	35	15	—

† Brought. ‡ Sold:

Camels		Donkeys		Sheep		Goats		Principle Breeds Assembled
B	S	B	S	B	S	B	S	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Hariana, Murrah, Renda, Nagauri, Desi.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	do
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	do
8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	do
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nagauri, Gir, Buffa- loes, Rams, Horses, Camels, Donkeys.
13,356	6,634	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nagauri, Renda, Hariana, Camels, Horses, Buffaloes.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Gir
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Gir
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Local cattle and buffaloes.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	do
—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	do
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Gir and Mixed locals.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	do
50	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nagauri, Gir
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Marwari, Nagauri,
65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Renda, Nagaur, Buffaloes, Rams.

FAMINES

The fickle nature of the rainfall throughout the tract, makes it difficult to distinguish any special part as peculiarly liable to scarcity; history points to no definite conclusions. The monsoon is generally supposed to break at the end of June or the beginning of July but a late commencement is less to be dreaded than a premature withdrawal.

Early famines

Harbilas Sarda¹ has referred to a Persian historical book *Muasirul Umra* as recording the occurrence of famine in Ajmer in 1613 and saying that in that year, wheat sold at one rupee for a seer at Ajmer.

The next recorded famine came in 1661.

Other famines occurred in 1746 and in 1789 the latter of which is supposed to have exceeded in intensity even the terrible famine of 1812 which is said to have lasted five years and has gained the name of *panchkal*. Three fourths of the cattle died and as stated also in the record of the famine of 1661, man ate man. In 1819, 1824, 1833 and 1848 there was severe scarcity in Ajmer.

The famine of 1868-69 was caused by irregular seasons for some previous years. The rainfall of 1868 was only about one-third of the normal.

Such was the scarcity of fodder that cows were offered for sale at Re. 1 each and good plough cattle at Rs. 10 a pair. By November the condition became deplorable and grew worse with the havoc of hail-storm and mildew. People took to mixing bark and roots with grain.

Pour-houses were established in April, 1869. The rains did not set in until July, and were then insufficient; hope of the *kharif* failed, even roots and bark became scarce and the mortality was frightful. Copious rain in September was discounted by a plague of locusts which destroyed from 50 to 85 per cent of the standing crops. Prices touched their highest point in September, when barley was sold for 3 seers per rupee in Ajmer city, but at times, even men with money in their hands were unable to get food. This was the crisis. Thereafter, importation of grain commenced from Bhiwani and Rewari, and the tension gradually slackened until the rains of the following year brought relief. The losses were calculated at 25 per cent of the population of 2,46,000, 33 per

1. *Ajmer : Historical and Descriptive*, (Ajmer, 1941), p. 314.

cent of the cattle and 50 per cent of the plough and milch cattle. Government spent altogether Rs. 15,20,074 out of which Rs. 2,30,000 were given in gratuitous relief.

There was a scarcity in 1890-92 and prices rose slightly.

Twenty years of comparative prosperity followed the disastrous season of 1869. But in 1890, crops withered due to an abrupt end of monsoon in early August and indications of scarcity began to show. It commenced as a fodder famine. By the failure of the monsoon of 1891, the scarcity deepened into famine. The drought continued throughout September and October; the winter rains were also unfavourable and the autumn crops of 1891 and the spring crops of 1892 both failed. The numbers on relief works which were 3,623 at the end of September, rose to 14,914 by the end of October and reached their maximum (99,471) in the following May. In this month some 10,000 persons were in receipt of gratuitous relief. The works were closed in October, 1892 when copious rains had fallen. A system of home labour for the assistance of *parda-nashin* women was tried in Ajmer city.

The total cost to Government of the relief operations amounted to over Rs. 21 lakhs.

There were grain riots in many villages of Ajmer in September, 1891. The village traders who had stopped giving credit in August, were the victims and the Mers are believed to have been the principal instigators of the disturbances. The cavalry from Deoli and Erinpura was called in to assist the police patrols. But a show of force was sufficient and the lawlessness soon subsided.

There was but little breathing space before the next disaster. The seasons of 1892-93 and of 1894-95 were very fair but that of 1895-96 was indifferent. Thereafter the situation grew gradually more serious until it culminated in the great famine of 1899-1900. A partial failure of the *kharif* in 1896-97 was followed by indifferent *rabi* in 1897-98. In 1898-99 there was a deficiency of rainfall and relief measures were started in November, 1898. Until September, 1899, these were comparatively restricted; village relief was not found necessary until May of that year and the total numbers in receipt of relief, did not rise above 9,000 until the end of July. But by that time fears regarding the rains, intensified the general anxiety. Prices, which had shown an upward tendency since May, began to rise rapidly and by the end of August,

the relief figures in what was at that time the district of Merwara, had been more than trebled.

September saw an almost complete failure of rains. Ajmer received 8 inches and Merwara only 5. The tanks were empty, wells were drying up and a total loss of both crops appeared to be inevitable. The prices of food-grains mounted steadily. They reached their highest point in October, when barley sold at about 9 seers to the rupee.

Test-works were opened in Ajmer in September 1899, and, the numbers rose rapidly in October. Thereafter, until the cold weather of 1900, the entire district was under the operation of the Famine Code. The numbers reached their highest point in June, 1900, when 68,728 persons or 16 per cent of the population, were receiving relief in Ajmer. In Merwara, the pressure was even more severe and at one time, 72 per cent of the whole or the entire rural population, was in receipt of government relief and the percentage was over 70 for a considerable period. The figures began to fall after the setting in of the rains in July, 1900 and thereafter, declined until relief measures were stopped in November. The relief works undertaken consisted chiefly, of the construction of new tanks and the repair of old ones, the making of new roads and collection of metal for existing ones.

Great numbers of cattle died and it is calculated that Merwara lost a half, including many of the more valuable animals. The Government forests were thrown open in grazing but the grass was scanty and of little assistance. State importation of hay was also attempted but private enterprise on the same lines, proved more successful. When the rains came in 1900, liberal grants of *takavi* and of money from the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund were made and did much towards replenishing the stock of cattle from outside, and giving the people a fresh start. The cost of famine was Rs. 47,62,866.

The great famine ended in the cold season of 1900. The rains had been plentiful and both autumn and spring crops were fair. But in 1901, although the rains began well in July and August and secured the grass crops, they failed later, giving Merwara an average of only 10.81 inches and Ajmer 12.91 inches. The result was a recurrence of scarcity in the latter and of famine in the former place. The number of persons upon relief touched its highest point 30,446 in the month of August.

No difficulty was felt regarding fodder for the cattle and there was

little emigration. As the famine was entirely local, prices ruled low throughout.

The cost of relief during the famine including the grants of *takavi* to cultivators up to the end of September, 1902, was Rs. 2,49,311.

The next famine was that of 1905-06. The distress commenced with the severe frosts of 1905. The *rabi* area had already been reduced by the insufficiency of rain during the monsoon of 1904, to about half the normal in Ajmer and Beawar and a little more than half in Todgarh. Of this area, only about two-third in Ajmer and one-fourth in Beawar and Todgarh survived the frosts. In July and August there was practically no monsoon and the average rain registered up to the end of the latter month, was 3.17 inches in Ajmer and 2.70 inches in Merwara. The situation improved by the rainfall of September; *kharif* sowings were renewed but the absence of any further useful fall prevented these crops coming to maturity. The existence of famine was formally declared with effect from the 22nd October.

The month of July opened with very heavy rain and the number of people on relief works fell as agricultural operations were generally resumed.

Scarcity was declared in 1916 but declaration of famine was avoided. Due to scarcity of grass in the surrounding states, the district was flooded with cattle, especially those from Jodhpur on their way to Malwa. Government relief measures included concessional rates for transport of fodder, and cotton seeds (the concession on cotton seeds was withdrawn after 3½ months operation as it was found to be abused), facilities for transport of cattle by rail to intending emigrants which was availed for only 177 cattle, issue of grass and *takavi* system at a cost of Rs. 48,378, and opening of six fodder depots which relieved 5,710 returning cattle at an expenditure of Rs. 1,728.

There was again scarcity in 1918-19; prices rose high but in spite of this, there was no real distress. Scarcity was formally declared to exist only in Merwara sub-division and some relief was arranged.

Fodder scarcities occurred in 1925-26 and 1936-37 and a fodder famine in 1939-40. The famine was caused by a low (9.5") and badly distributed rainfall which fell far short of the annual average.

The year 1939-40 witnessed a treble famine caused by the cumula-

tive failure of rains in the last three years. Most of the fields were not sown and in most of those sown, the seed died.

Test works were opened on August 7, 1939 and by August 11, these had attracted 2,493 workers which was a clear evidence of the prevailing disaster. Other pointers in the direction, were increase in crimes of looting, emigration and death of cattle and dry wells and tanks.

Fortunately, there was sufficient rain in July, 1940 which enabled agricultural operations to be resumed. The number of workers on relief works gradually diminished. The total cost of departmental relief came to Rs. 31,94,890 and the total number of units relieved 5,59,50,355.

Among the relief works undertaken, mention may be made of construction of 4 new tanks, improvement, repair and strengthening of 28 tanks, clearing silt and strengthening earthen dams of 84 tanks, and construction and metalling of roads.

Fodder scarcities again cropped up in 1942 and 1948-50 which in the latter of these years, were accompanied by famines. The expenditure on test works in 1948-49 was Rs. 16,766 and in 1949-50, Rs. 2,29,396. Works undertaken were improvement of 5 tanks and three roads.

In the famine of 1950-51, an expenditure of Rs. 3,92,807 was incurred on improving 5 tanks and 12 roads.

This was followed by yet another famine in 1951-52 which raged in the entire district (then still a part C State) from April 1951 to February 1953. In all 202 fair price shops were opened, revenue remissions totalling Rs. 48,279 were granted; 2,75,580 cattle emigrated and Rs. 92.4 lakh spent on relief works.

The last so far, in the chain of calamities is the partial scarcity of 1960-61 which was more or less confined to Beawar tahsil. No remissions were granted. However, 111 relief works costing Rs. 7,33,800 were sanctioned. The scarcity which was caused by untimely cessation of rains, lasted for seven months from March 1961 to September 1961. Usual works like improvement and construction of road, irrigation works and desilting of tanks, were undertaken.

APPENDIX I

LIST OF IMPORTANT TANKS IN AJMER DISTRICT

Name of the tank	Capacity in Mft.	Commanded area (acres)	Actual irri- gation in 1960-61 (acres)
Bankey Sagar	61	610	225
Sindoor Sagar	67	670	141
Gopal Sagar	24	240	59
Shela Sagar	24	220	16
Moti Sagar	24	240	78
Gopal Sagar	24	240	18
Ganesh Sagar	24	240	39
Naya Talab (Birla)	32	320	45
Rani Sagar	24	240	—
Bala Sagar (Bhatola)	32	320	82
Naya Sagar (Batoda)	16	160	135
Balasagar (Balawta)	32	320	47
Bijai Sagar (Fatahgarh)	90	900	533
Gajsagar	69	690	421
Govindsagar	53	530	496
Madan Sarowar	311	3,110	1,505
Taj Sarowar	192	1,920	953
Ana Sagar	72.48	345	37
Ram Sagar Barda	24	240	35
Kanwar Pada Birla	19	190	25
Gembhir Sagar Madanpura	12	120	23
Bhagwatia Sarowar	16	160	42
Sura Suri	18	180	168
Ambolao Hingonia	16	160	79
Ajgra Bund	120	1,400	—
Makera (Bhagwanpura)	60.10	272	69
Balad tank	168.61	1,800	139
Dewata tank	31.71	258	44
Jawaja tank	79.3	440	180

LIST OF IMPORTANT TANKS IN AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Name of the tank	Capacity in Mcft.	Commanded area (acres)	Actual irri- gation in 1960-61 (acres)
Kali Kankar	53.59	425	53
Lassari tank	14.6	100	86
Latyana tank	26.29	220	54
Narbad Khera tank	13.62	105	50
Bara talab	55.48	300	144
Nand Sagar	12	120	51
Bhawani Sagar	—	—	420
Kishan Sagar (Gagunda)	73.44	1,223	145
Sukhsagar	50.48	840	—
Surkheli	150.94	2,515	25
Vijay Sagar Ankodia	55	916	66
Vijay Sagar lamba	55.96	932	106
Keria Ka Talab	29.30	488	69
Naya Talab (Barna)	64	1,066	299
Dhansagar Dadib	70.25	1,170	12
Ganesh Sagar	66.51	1,108	102
Bhawani Sagar	70.04	1,166	60
Hanumansagar Barna	59.69	995	367
Rai Sagar Tikawara	21.40	357	—
Lamba Sergaon	26.44	440	50
Madan Sagar	59.16	907	125
Jai Sagar	33.17	553	196
Ummed Sagar	28.77	480	31
Ram Sarowar	20.43	340	—
Khotalai	21.15	353	35
Ransamand	73.45	1,229	—
Ramsagar	25.29	422	—

APPENDIX II
AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Rice	Jwar	Bajra	Maize	Ragi or Maua	Wheat	Barley	Other cereals and small millets	Gram	Tur	Other Pulses <i>Kharif</i>	<i>Rabi</i>
1957-58	Ajmer	58	51,938	38,975	24,397	—	25,714	22,384	1,161	17,373	—	14,830	—
	Beawar	141	26,145	6,923	32,907	—	11,565	18,451	5,423	7,097	—	3,597	—
	Kekri	5	60,811	564	29,818	—	50,319	25,512	902	33,117	—	1,305	—
	Kishangarh	—	25,162	8,086	6,551	—	3,866	6,969	29	5,160	—	2,143	—
	Sarwar	—	18,126	55	7,761	—	10,553	6,597	71	10,651	—	76	—
	Roopnagar	41	7,052	22,042	1,193	—	1,781	4,708	60	164	215	16,306	—
	Arain	—	12,891	657	9,425	—	4,635	7,839	29	5,868	—	773	—
Total		245	2,02,125	77,302	1,12,052	—	1,08,433	92,460	7,675	79,430	215	39,030	—

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Total Pulses	Sugarcane	Pepper	Chillies	Ginger	Turmeric	Cardo- moms	Betel Nuts	Others	Mangoes	Citrus Fruits	Bananas
1957-58	Ajmer	32,203	763	—	1,624	—	—	—	—	927	15	22	—
	Beawar	10,694	17	—	2,059	—	—	—	—	479	—	52	—
	Kekri	34,422	324	—	359	—	—	—	—	3,250	—	2	—
	Kishangarh	7,303	—	—	785	—	—	—	—	586	—	2	—
	Sarwar	10,727	25	—	42	—	—	—	—	662	—	—	—
	Roopnagar	16,685	—	—	81	—	—	—	—	908	—	—	—
	Airan	6,641	—	—	473	—	—	—	—	480	—	—	—
Total		1,18,675	1,129	—	5,423	—	—	—	—	7,292	15	78	—

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Grape	Pome- fruit	Others	Pota- toes	Sing- hara toes	Sweet Pota- toes	Others		Onions	Total Fruits and Vegetables		Total Food crops	Ground nuts
								Kharif	Rabi					
1957-58	Ajmer	—	522	215	60	3	43	1,500	894	206	3,480	2,03,624	539	
	Beawar	—	105	183	2	4	87	1	203	1	638	1,15,442	625	
	Kekri	—	—	87	11	—	13	96	231	—	440	2,06,726	854	
	Kishangarh	—	—	6	3	28	—	25	96	—	160	59,497	1	
	Sarwar	—	—	—	1	2	—	32	67	—	102	54,721	151	
	Roopnagar	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	15	—	21	54,572	18	
	Arain	—	—	10	1	—	—	5	9	—	25	43,095	12	
Total		—	627	501	79	37	143	1,664	1,515	207	4,866	7,37,677	2,200	

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Castor seed	Sesamum	Rape and Mustard	Linseed	Others	Cotton	Sun hemp	Dyes and Tanning Materials	Tobacco	Others	Total	Non-Food crops
1957-58	Ajmer	—	15,535	10	33	308	7,962	—	—	5	—	16	6,796
	Beawar	—	6,748	95	34	69	11,392	8	—	2	—	2	4,411
	Kekri	—	19,751	2	185	1,018	16,493	52	10	3	—	3	7,813
	Kishangarh	—	6,399	1	—	130	252	6	—	5	—	5	1,111
	Sarwar	—	5,470	2	16	32	4,409	2	—	3	—	3	2,413
	Roopnagar	—	3,770	—	—	—	4	—	—	8	—	8	2,362
	Arain	—	7,082	2	3	208	2,028	40	4	—	—	—	1,384
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	Total	—	64,755	112	271	1,765	42,540	108	14	26	—	37	26,290

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Rice	Juar	Bajra	Maizo	Ragi or Marua	Wheat	Barley	Other cereals and small millets	Gram	Tur	Other Pulses	
												Kharij	Rabi
1958-59	Ajmer	77	64,384	32,051	21,930	—	28,868	26,985	1,594	36,048	—	17,896	—
	Beawar	60	20,618	5,630	33,261	—	14,886	22,811	5,677	15,491	—	2,617	5
	Kekri	74	60,255	597	26,214	—	60,617	30,264	1,299	35,758	12	1,748	16
	Kishangarh	—	28,175	7,118	6,657	—	4,362	7,178	37	9,192	2	2,218	3
	Sarwar	4	19,281	93	7,623	—	11,294	7,182	64	13,760	7	86	25
	Roopnagar	—	8,934	22,999	1,071	—	1,902	5,424	212	4,125	—	16,435	—
	Arain	—	13,675	513	8,949	—	4,846	6,606	13	7,951	1	1,005	—
Total		215	2,15,322	69,001	1,05,705	—	1,26,775	1,06,450	8,896	1,22,325	22	42,005	49

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Total Pulses	Sugar-cane	Pepper	Chillies	Ginger	Turmeric	Cardemoms	Betel Nuts	Others	Mangoes	Citrus Fruits	Bananas
1958-59	Ajmer	53,944	462	—	1,105	—	—	—	—	1,060	15	23	—
	Beawar	18,113	7	—	776	—	—	—	—	478	—	54	—
	Kekri	37,534	975	—	348	—	—	—	—	3,868	—	45	—
	Kishangarh	11,415	3	—	589	—	—	—	—	1,047	—	—	—
	Sarwar	13,878	—	—	46	—	—	—	—	826	—	—	—
	Roopnagar	20,560	—	1	56	—	—	—	—	1,160	—	—	—
	Arain	8,957	—	—	194	—	—	—	—	675	—	—	—
Total		1,64,401	647	1	3,314	—	—	—	—	9,114	15	122	—

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Grapes	Prome fruits	Others	Potatoes	Singhara Pota- toes	Onions	Others <i>Kharif</i>	Total fruits and vegeta- bles	Total Food crops	Ground Nuts	
1958-59	Ajmer	—	435	163	—	83	656	1,278	1,173	3,926	2,36,386	719
	Beawar	—	128	4	—	4	89	190	469	938	1,23,455	467
	Kekri	—	7	35	5	4	61	141	266	564	2,21,809	733
	Kishangarh	—	2	—	5	8	15	29	89	148	66,729	4
	Sarwar	—	—	—	4	—	10	25	48	87	60,378	131
	Roopnagar	—	—	—	3	—	22	5	7	37	62,355	25
	Arain	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	25	31	44,459	5
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	Total	—	572	202	17	99	856	1,671	2,077	5,731	8,15,571	2,084

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Castor seed	Sesumum	Rape and Mustard	Lin-seed	Others	Cotton	Sunhemp	Dyes and tanning materials	To-bacco	Others	Total	Total non-Food Crops
1958-59	Ajmer	132	17,014	278	27	550	9,472	3	—	7	—	7	37,156
	Beawar	2	7,611	496	15	1,025	10,297	4	—	7	—	7	35,070
	Kekri	—	26,188	36	567	1,332	17,472	77	11	6	—	6	56,408
	Kishangarh	—	9,407	116	2	315	293	6	—	1	—	1	11,173
	Sarwar	—	7,322	18	46	3	5,048	2	—	4	—	4	15,069
	Roopnagar	—	5,668	364	12	2	4	2	—	8	—	8	9,448
	Arain	—	7,683	2	—	242	2,624	74	3	—	—	—	11,799
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	Total	134	80,893	1,310	669	3,469	45,210	168	14	33	—	33	1,76,123

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Rice	Juar	Bajra	Maize	Ragi or Marua	Wheat	Barley	Other cereals and small millets	Other Pulses		
										Tur	Kharif	Rabi
1959-60	Ajmer	121	53,406	29,836	26,623	51	31,179	26,675	—	46,370	—	28,149
	Beawar	98	19,652	4,871	33,955	7	18,114	25,540	118	21,028	6	14,548
	Kekri	328	56,726	330	32,560	21	62,784	28,620	2	47,367	8	5,406
	Kishangarh	24	24,804	4,753	7,598	10	4,714	6,866	1	13,443	19	4,567
	Araia	—	11,766	324	9,146	—	4,738	6,738	—	10,807	2	1,810
	Sarwar	—	19,180	29	8,678	13	12,639	7,371	4	16,396	—	260
	Roopnagar	1	9,028	20,301	1,199	111	1,896	4,924	3	2,950	—	20,290
Total		572	1,94,562	60,444	1,19,759	213	1,36,064	1,06,734	128	1,58,361	35	74,830

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Area	Native Crops Total	Sugarcane	Pepper	Chickpea	Ginger	Turmeric	Cashew nut	Other	Mangoes	Citrus Fruit	Banana	
1949-50 Ajmer	24,520	316	—	1,287	—	—	66	—	1,516	25	38	1
Bikaner	23,595	5	—	1,286	—	—	21	—	858	2	25	—
Ajmer	52,782	207	—	457	—	—	6	—	5,864	2	48	—
Kodanagar	18,024	—	—	542	—	—	1	—	883	—	—	—
Ajmer	11,619	—	—	317	—	—	1	—	967	—	—	—
Bikaner	19,656	2	—	68	—	—	9	—	1,088	—	—	—
Kodanagar	23,040	—	—	51	—	—	10	—	778	—	—	—
Total	1,11,624	750	—	4,108	—	—	117	—	11,954	29	111	1

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Grapes	Promo fruits	Others	Potatoes	Singhara Potatoes	Sweet Potatoes	Onions	Others <i>Kharif</i>	<i>Rabi</i>	Total fruits and vegeta- bles	Total Food crops	Ground Nuts
1959-60	Ajmer	1	648	389	61	12	115	376	1,326	1,387	4,379	2,50,195	1,619
	Beawar	—	50	16	5	5	—	198	347	426	1,074	1,41,184	436
	Kekri	—	15	53	3	13	3	51	153	314	655	2,41,342	1,273
	Kishangarh	—	—	—	1	—	3	18	31	110	163	68,491	10
	Arain	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	6	23	58	46,674	11
	Sarwar	—	—	2	—	4	—	11	27	37	81	65,818	245
	Roopnagar	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	38	43	61,385	3
Total		1	713	460	72	34	121	684	1,892	2,335	6,453	8,75,089	3,597

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Castro seed	Sesamum	Rape and Mustard	Linseed	Others	Cotton	Sun hemp	Dyes and Tanning Material	Tobacco	Others	Total	Non-Food crops
1959-60	Ajmer	—	18,653	79	175	432	7,617	84	—	6	—	6	38,245
	Beawar	—	7,158	110	21	723	10,492	2	8	2	—	2	28,923
	Kekri	—	22,054	17	490	805	16,688	138	35	5	—	5	51,260
	Kishangarh	—	10,717	—	—	175	128	20	—	3	—	3	12,489
	Araia	—	7,886	4	1	191	1,918	88	2	—	—	—	11,784
	Sarwar	—	5,553	—	42	5	4,414	4	—	7	—	7	13,004
	Roopnagar	—	5,858	20	—	1	2	1	—	6	—	6	10,195
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	Total	—	77,879	230	729	2,332	41,259	337	45	29	—	29	1,65,900

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Rice	Juar	Bajra	Maize	Ragi or Marua	Other cereals			Tur	Other Pulses Kharif Rabi		
							Wheat	Barley	and small millets				
1960-61	Ajmer	44	67,196	41,431	27,029	97	26,130	18,310	111	13,976	2	16,114	1
	Beawar	85	21,757	4,676	36,943	—	11,475	15,375	1,291	4,457	2	6,497	—
	Kekri	1	65,072	390	37,362	—	51,254	23,461	24	37,530	17	2,972	5
	Kishangarh	1	27,822	7,523	7,573	—	3,179	4,959	25	1,836	6	1,447	—
	Arain	1	31,181	395	10,681	—	2,931	5,489	46	3,748	2	635	—
	Sarwar	—	21,345	14	9,857	—	8,927	5,347	18	14,019	5	116	—
	Roopnagar	—	9,511	28,701	1,398	—	1,240	3,547	203	23	244	14,788	—
	Total	132	2,43,884	83,130	1,30,843	97	1,05,136	76,488	1,718	75,589	278	42,569	6

AREA UNDER DIFFERENT CROPS, AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Year	Name of the Tahsil	Castro seed	Sesamum	Rape and Mustard	Lin-seed	Others	Cotton	Sunhemp	Dyes and tanning materials	To-bacco	Others	Total	Total non-Food Crops
1960-61	Ajmer	—	12,098	16	1	665	5,327	—	—	16	—	16	30,857
	Beawar	—	3,509	24	1	21	7,982	—	—	—	—	—	23,463
	Kekri	—	11,653	—	410	342	12,008	—	95	4	—	4	35,258
	Kishangraha	—	7,235	—	—	12	49	—	—	2	—	2	9,096
	Arain	—	5,674	3	—	—	1,283	—	—	—	—	—	9,068
	Sarwar	—	2,782	—	57	—	3,091	—	—	2	—	2	8,037
	Roopnagar	—	5,001	—	—	—	1	—	—	16	—	16	8,646
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	Total	—	47,952	43	469	1,040	29,741	—	95	40	—	40	1,24,425

APPENDIX III

LIVESTOCK AJMER DISTRICT

Type of animals	Provisional figures		Increase or decrease
	1956	1961	
Cattle			
Males over 3 years Breeding	596	389	
Working	1,31,348	1,46,416	
Others	3,533	1,704	
Total males	1,35,477	1,48,509	
Females over 3 years			
In milk	60,865	54,391	
Dry	10,01,347	1,13,149	
Others	28,127	26,842	
Total females	1,90,339	1,94,382	
Young stock 3 years and under	1,38,617	1,66,188	
Total cattle	4,04,433	5,09,079	+ 34,646
Buffaloes			
Males over 3 years			
Breeding	524	327	
Working	3,200	5,900	
Others	317	435	
Total males	4,041	6,662	
Females over 3 years			
In milk	29,853	35,653	
Dry	26,735	33,991	
Others	12,179	11,026	
Total females	68,767	80,670	
Young stock 3 years and under	49,266	74,387	
Total Buffaloes	1,22,074	1,61,719	+ 39,645
Sheep			
Total sheep	4,37,351	4,88,718	+ 51,367

LIVESTOCK AJMER DISTRICT (Contd.)

Type of animals	Provisional figures		Increase or decrease
	1956	1961	
Goats			
Total goats	3,00,776	2,73,521	- 27,255
Horses and Ponies	2,305	2,137	+ 168
Total Horses and Ponies			
Mules	26	9	
Donkeys	6,263	6,218	
Camels	2,954	2,414	
Pigs	5,812	3,806	
Total live stock	13,41,994	14,47,621	+ 1,05,627
Poultry			
Fowls	19,449	30,241	
Ducks	187	362	
Others	190	—	
Total poultry	19,826	30,603	

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

OLD TIME INDUSTRIES

The dearth of industries in Ajmer and the low level of workmanship were explained in 1904 by C. C. Watson,¹ thus: "As a rule, the accident of patronage has alone determined the home of artistic industries. The Mughal Emperors no longer rule in Ajmer and the wealthy Seths are but indifferent supporters of art. The best artificers of Rajputana are to be looked for in Jaipur, Jodhpur, Alwar, Bikaner and other Native States where patronage is still available. The industries of Ajmer are similar but inferior.

"There is no silk weaving, and hand industries are limited. The cotton handlooms in Ajmer and the larger villages turn out cloths known as *reza*, *khes*, *dhoti*, *susi* and *charkhana*, for local use. *Reza* is a stiff white cloth made from native thread, used largely for garments by the peasantry. It is also the favourite medium for the dyers, who print designs upon it with wooden stamps, which are cut in Marwar. The local industry is, however, perishing in the face of foreign competition, and cannot revive. *Khes* cloth has a diagonal pattern, owing to the threads of the weft being twined alternately with those of the warp. It is used for sheets and *chadars* by the lower classes. *Susi* is a narrow cotton fabric, used only by Muhammadan women for trousers; it has stripes lengthwise down the piece of a different colour from the groundwork. *Charkhana* is a sort of superior *susi* with a check pattern. Towels, table-linens and other cloths are made in the Ajmer Jail. Fabrics made there of country *reza* cloth, dyed red with *al root*, and stamped with patterns in black, are very popular in the rural areas. The cotton bed covers and printed floor-cloths of Beawar are the best in the district. Carpets and rugs are manufactured in the Ajmer Jail only. Considerable trouble has been taken to secure attractive designs, and the old Indian patterns, as well as those of Kashmir and of Persia are reproduced here. There is nothing noteworthy or distinctive about the jewellery, most of its forms being well known in the adjacent . . . States, such as Jaipur; and those of Ajmer are generally inferior. The Mers wear rough ornaments of silver or of base metal which some-

1. *Gazetteer of Ajmer Merwara*—C. C. Watson, p. 63-64.

times preserve old forms, while ornaments bearing the figure of their hero, Tejaji, are common among the Jats. None of them deserve special mention.

“Of artistic metal vessels there is practically no manufacture. The village black smith’s art is limited to implements of husbandry of the roughest description. Gadulia lohars of the wandering castes supply rough locks, knives, spoons, etc. The brass and copper vessels made in the towns are plain and without special characteristics. Artistic pottery is unknown. Though some of the houses of the wealthier citizens of Ajmer are adorned with rich carvings in wood and stone, the best workmen have to be obtained from outside the district. The turners of Ajmer are chiefly employed in making rosaries, combs, etc. of sandal wood, which are purchased by the pilgrims who resort to the Dargah. They also turn bangles of ivory, the only description of ivory work known in the district. Bangles of lacquer work are also made, but are inferior to those of Delhi. Many of the carpenter class have obtained employment in the workshops of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway.”

Many of these industries continue to flourish, but some have declined due to import of cheaper products. The hand-loom industry, for instance, has suffered much from the competition of cheap mill made cloth in the past. Similarly, the oil pressing industry has suffered from the competition of the oil mills and the brass and copper industry has declined due to the import of superior products, especially from Jaipur and Moradabad.

The first textile mill in Ajmer, The Krishna Textile Mill was established in 1889; industrial growth for sometime was confined to this line only. During the present century, however, the district has made rapid strides towards industrialization. A number of small and medium-size plants have been set up to manufacture scientific instruments and chemicals. Many new lines of production have been opened.

Industries in Kishangarh

The story of industrialization in Kishangarh begins in 1897 when a cotton mill was established. Shortly afterwards some cotton gins and presses and other small plants were also added. Another factory was established in 1948 to produce brass and copper utensils. At the time of transfer of Kishangarh to district Ajmer, the following mills and factories were functioning there:—

(1) The Maharaja Kishangarh Mills, (2) Mahesh Metal Works, (3) Rajasthan Industrial Corporation, comprising ice, hosiery, ginning, oil pressing and dal milling units, (4) Rajputana Mining Syndicate and (5) some handloom factories. Important cottage industries were cloth printing and dyeing and shoe-making.

Power

HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER—The district does not possess any big river which can be harnessed for multi-purpose projects. The production of hydro-electric power within the district is, as such, out of question. There are, however, proposals to supply some power from Bhakra and Chambal projects during the third Five Year Plan. The power from Chambal is expected to be delivered on the completion of the Ajmer-Kota transmission line. It will mainly go to the towns of Ajmer, Beawar, Kishangarh and Bijainagar. Bijainagar will also receive power from Bhakra project.

THERMAL POWER—One of the main factors underlying the rapid industrial growth of the district in the present century, has been the availability of power in sufficient measure. At present there are eight power houses in the district, the earliest of these having been set up in 1924 by the railway authorities. Out of these eight, two are owned by the Western Railway, one by the Ministry of Defence (Military Engineering Services), three by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board and two by private companies.

The power-house at Ajmer is owned by Messers Amalgamated Electricity Company Ltd., which has its head offices at Bombay. It was erected in 1930 and with a 6,155 h.p. engine in 1960-61, it sold 1,12,40,506 units to 15,514 domestic and 408 industrial consumers. The principal industries served are: flour mills, *gota* factories, iron foundries, glass cutting and grinding and electroplating plants, hosiery works, spinning works, saw mills, rerolling mills etc. Apart from supplies to industries, supplies are made to Municipality for water pumping and to Western Railway in bulk for the Loco Workshop as well as Colony lighting. Domestic consumers are supplied power all the 24 hours while supply to motive-power consumers is curtailed during peak hours. The station employs a staff of 207.

The only other private power-house in the district is at Beawar. Erected in 1937, it had production capacity of 144 kw. which in 1960-61 was raised to 725 kw. The power-station produced 22,85,310

units in 1960-61 out of which 18,92,499 units were sold to 2,694 domestic and 105 industrial consumers. The main industrial consumers are engineering workshops, metal industries, printing presses and textile mills etc. The current is supplied throughout the day. The station employs 71 persons.

The power-houses at Kekri, Kishangarh and Bijainagar are owned by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board. The Kishangarh power-house was started in 1925. It has a capacity of 250 kw. and sold 3,31,402 units in 1960-61, the number of connections being 685 (665 domestic and 20 industrial). Flour mills, saw mills, handloom factories and metal works are the principal industrial consumers. The staff consists of 27 persons and power is supplied for 23 hours in a day. The Bijainagar power-house is comparatively new, having been established in 1959. It has two diesel generating sets of 50 and 100 kw. capacity and generated 44,325 units in 1960-61, out of which 39,675 were sold to 151 consumers. Flour mills and ginning factories are the main industries using power. Supply of power is made throughout the day except from 6 A.M. to 10 A.M. The staff totals 21. The third State owned power-house in the district is at Kekri. It was started in 1960 and has two diesel sets of 75 and 25 kw. There are 220 connections and current is supplied between 12 noon to 5 A.M. A staff of 4 persons mans the station.

There are two Railway power-houses in the district and the one situated at Nagra (Ajmer) is the oldest power house in the district which was established in the year 1923. It supplies power both (D C and A C) exclusively to the Loco and Carriage and Wagon Workshops. Generators for producing AC supply were provided only in the year 1952. This power house has a capacity of 5,250 (2,000 kw D C and 3,250 kw. A C) and the total number of units generated in 1960-61, was 55,65,202. The supply is maintained throughout the day and night. The staff engaged was 149 in 1960-61.

The smaller Railway power-house, at Budha Pushkar was constructed in the year 1959 having a capacity of 208 kw. A C This power-house is only for supplying energy to Water Pumps and 1,43,560 units were consumed in 1960-61. The number of the staff engaged in this power-house was eight in the year 1960-61.

The military authorities at Nasirabad, have their own power-station which is maintained by the M.E.S.

MINING—The district is rich in mineral deposits, both quantita-

tively and qualitatively. Though the main minerals are mica, beryl, quartz and felspar, emeralds and some radio-active earths are also found. Other minerals include soapstone, limestone, asbestos, dolomite, etc.¹

Mica is the most important mineral of the district and is being worked under as many as 64 leases, Ten out of the 13 mining licences, are working on mica deposits alone covering an area of 4,430 acres. The important mica mines are at Basundani near Sarwar and in areas near Arain and Dadia. These mines are very old, some having gone as deep as 200 feet. Mica mines are being worked in the district for more than a century. In 1960 the total production was 8,135 tons yielding a revenue of Rs. 48,529. Generally, mica of the black-spotted type is found but ruby quality is also sometimes found.

After mica, the main minerals are felspar and quartz. There are 33 leases for felspar and 27 for quartz. These are found mainly at Makrera, about 12 miles from Ajmer. In 1960, the production of felspar was 8,929 tons and that of quartz 1,245 tons, yield of revenue being Rs. 8,248 and Rs. 1,179 respectively. Beryl is found at Rajgarh and there were 6 leases in 1960, the production being about 10 tons. The mineral brought a revenue of Rs. 1,231.

The only other mineral deserving individual mention is emerald, which is found only at two places in India viz. Ajmer and Udaipur. There are three leases for emerald mining in Ajmer district, at Rajgarh and Bubani. In 1960, more than 12 seers of emeralds were extracted bringing a revenue of Rs. 1,828.

Along the pegmatites, ultra basic rocks consisting of magnesite deposits, soapstone, vermiculite are also found. At some places the biotite and phlogophite types of mica are being altered due to hydrothermal reactions into vermiculite, which can be used in heat resisting and acoustic materials.

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1. An extensive report on the Geology Kishangarh State which now forms a part of Ajmer district was submitted by Babu Baidyanath Saha in 1904. He testified to the existence of garret, building materials like marble, roofing slabs and slate, mica, graphitic shale, iron, copper, fluorspar, quartz etc. Before Saha, C. A. Hackett had examined the State's geology in 1877 and 1878 and E. Vredenburg in 1900. About the geological formation of the State, Saha said it was very intricate partly on account of the intense metamorphism to which all the rocks have been subjected and partly owing to the completely unfossiliferous condition of the sedimentaries.

At Rajgarh, the pagmatite and ultra basic rocks are highly mineralized. At Jecwan mines in Rajgarh, lithium, spodumene, various types of beryl and several other minerals occur at one place. At some of the mica mines, radio-active minerals are also found, notable occurrences having been reported from Basundini, Dadia and Rajgarh. Occurrences of pitchblende, an important radio active mineral, were reported as far back as 1935 in the pagmatites quarried for beryl at Basundini. Columbite, tantalite and grossulite are also found in pagmatites associated with albites, green mica, quartz and beryl in Kekri, Kishangarh and Ajmer tahsils. There are notable occurrences of asbestos also in the district, especially at Nairalan and Nainhurd near Beer and at Kanwalai (in Ajmer tahsil). China clay deposits occur in plenty in Ajmer and Beawar tahsils. Among minor minerals, limestone and slabstone deposits are scattered throughout the district. Slabstones, used for roofing and flooring are being quarried at Silora, Rajaredi and many other places in Beawar tahsil. The slabs quarried in Beawar tahsil are of calc-schists.

Limestone deposits are found at Gagwana, Akhri, Mokhampura, Suliya, Doonger, Hatundi, Kesarpura and Kharwa. The total estimated deposit is about 40 million tons. Most of the limestone deposits are being worked for lime burning purposes. Some of these are suitable for production of cement and industrial and chemical lime. Some of the dolomite deposits are also being worked for lime burning purposes. There are good marble deposits at Kishangarh.

The following table shows the production of some important minerals and the revenue yield from them in 1960:

Name of the mineral	Production		Seers	Income		Number of lenses
	Tons	Maunds		Rs.	nP.	
Mica	8,135	2	13	48,529.63		64
Felspar	8,929	13	0	8,248.81		33
Quartz	1,245	0	0	1,179.73		27
Dolomite	3,684	0	0	131.25		2
Asbestos	5	0	0	1,553.25		1
Beryl	10	8	21	1,231.72		16
Muscovite	2,136	2	0	194.75		1
Emerald	12 Sr.	7 Ch.	1/3 T.	1,828.00		3

Iron ore and lead deposits have also been worked in the past, in the district. There is an adit in the Taragarh hills which has been worked for lead ore in the past. *The Imperial Gazetteer of India* (1885) also speaks of the Taragarh hill being rich in minerals like lead, copper and iron. The Marathas farmed lead mines for £ 500. On British acquisition of the territory, mining was also taken over and 400 to 500 tons of lead was produced. The Ajmer Military Magazine being the only customer, the production was stopped in 1848 when the demand ceased. The lead was of good quality and better than European pig lead.

There is no mechanization at most of the mines. The minerals are also not being exploited economically and regularly. The malady originated during earlier administration when leases even for small areas, were frequently granted. The small lease holders were unable to develop their mines fully and properly. The Government of Rajasthan now follows a policy of leasing areas of not less than 80 acres. Prospecting license is given for areas of more than 320 acres. Quarry equipment and monetary loans are also sometimes provided. This may encourage the mine owners to go in for mechanization.

The official technical personnel in the district included an Assistant Mining Engineer and a Junior Geologist.

EXPLORATION OF NEW MINERALS—A thorough search for all economic minerals has recently been started by the Department of Mines and Geology and two Geologists are busy combing the whole district. Fairly good reserves of vermiculite at Gudha and Lachhipura, graphite at Doomara and Lotiyana, asbestos and nickle at Kanwalai and garnet of semigem variety at Sarwar and in Kotra areas, have been found. Recently, the Geological Survey of India have started their own survey for lead and zinc deposits in Taragarh hills, Rajori, Ghugra, Ganeshpura, Satra, Sawar and Rajgarh areas.

LARGE SCALE INDUSTRY

Cotton Textile Industry

This is the most important and the biggest of the manufacturing industries of the district can justly claim to have brought to fore, the industrial potential of an area previously regarded only as a commercial mart. It seems rather strange that an area which does not grow sufficient cotton and has to depend entirely on import from Bihar and Bengal for coal requirements and where water supply was also preca-

rious, should have appealed to industrialists as a site for factories. The main reason dictating the choice, it seems, was that Beawar was a big cotton mandi where the commodity was imported without any custom impost. This, coupled with the advantage of cheap and abundant labour and quick rail and road transport, offset the disadvantages mentioned earlier. The place lies on the main road and rail routes from Bombay to Delhi, via Ahmadabad.

The first cotton mill of the district is the Krishna Mill floated at Beawar in 1889 as a joint stock company with a capital of Rs. 7,00,000. The mill went into production in 1891. In 1897 there were 250 looms and 12,132 spindles and 542 hands were employed. The out turn was 13,81,080 lbs. of yarn and 5,18,252 lbs. of the cloth of the total value of Rs. 6,58,323. As an experimental measure some power looms were installed in 1956 but they did not prove successful. In 1960 the mill had 636 looms and 24,168 spindles. With an average daily employment of 1,382 persons, the production in 1960 was 85,23,299 yards of cloth (of the value of Rs. 53,53,102) and 47,70,599 lbs. of yarn (of the value of Rs. 41,32,428). The mill gets cotton from Rajasthan, Punjab, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh and mainly sells the cloth in Rajasthan. Small quantities, however, are exported to Delhi, Kanpur, Bombay, Amritsar etc. The principal varieties of cloth produced are medium and coarse long cloth, *dhoties*, sheets, *dosooti* and *dedsooti*.

In 1897, the first textile mill of Rajputana states—The Maharaja Kishangarh Somyag Mill, was established at Kishangarh. In 1904 it employed about 500 persons, there were over 10,000 spindles and the out-turn exceeded 685 tons of yarn. The authorized capital of Rs. 5 lakhs was divided into shares of Rs. 500 each. A devastating fire in 1914 brought financial crisis and the state had to take it over. In 1920 it was again sold to a private firm to be followed by another take over in 1925. It was leased to a firm of Ajmer in 1932 for a period of 20 years. However, it closed down again in 1958. At the time of closure, it had 16,176 spindles and 329 looms and employed about 700 persons.

The Edward Mill at Beawar was established in 1906 with an initial authorized capital of Rs. 6,40,000 divided into shares of Rs. 500 each. It started with 7,400 spindles and 310 looms. In 1960, the mill employed about 1,222 persons and had 376 looms and 20,488 spindles. Since April 7, 1960 it has been functioning as a Government of India controlled undertaking. The mill obtains raw materials from Rajasthan, Gujarat, Punjab and Maharashtra. Its market extends in Rajas-

than, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. The main varieties produced are coarse and medium long cloth, coating, shirting etc. The production in 1960 was 58,95,678 yards of cloth and 12,34,800 lbs. of yarn.

The Mahalaxmi Textile Mill was set up at Beawar in 1925, by two industrialists. The mill started with 7,000 spindles and 200 looms. In 1930 the number of looms was increased to 416 and that of spindles to 13,728. In 1960, the Mill employed 1,125 labourers daily and had 14,036 spindles and 416 looms. The mill gets its raw materials from the same sources as those of the other mills. The product consisting mainly of *dhoties*, *sheetings*, *dosooti* and *dedsooti* is sold generally throughout the country. In 1960, the mill produced 22,46,957 lbs. of yarn and 76,58,558 yards of cloth.

Another mill which closed down in 1958 was the Bijay Cotton Mill, at Bijainagar opened in 1941. This mill employed about one thousand persons and with 14,000 spindles and 316 looms, had a monthly production capacity of about 300 bales of cloth and 400 bales of yarn.

Construction work on a new mill, the Aditya Mill, at Kishangarh is proceeding at present and is expected to be completed in a few months.

The textile industry gives employment to an average daily number of about 4,000 workers. The bulk of the labour force comes from villages in the neighbourhood of Beawar like Chhawani, old Beawar, Jalia, Mori, etc., the majority of the workers being agriculturists out to hunt for employment during slack agricultural season or during scarcity. Those living in nearby villages go back to the village after the day's work. A small portion of the labour force comes from other textile centres of India. Recruitment was through intermediaries till 1955 when the present *badli* system was introduced, Candidates deposit Rs. 10/- as non-refundable security and are trained and registered shiftwise. Any vacancy in a particular shift is given to the senior most *badli* man on the list.

Wages in the industry are now controlled. Upto 1939, however, there was no fixed wage, the principal reasons being the low bargaining capacity of the labouring classes due to poverty and the absence of labour organisations. The wages ranged between Rs. 6 and Rs. 20. In 1950, the Ajmer State Government included employment in the textile industry under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and set up an

enquiry committee which reported on October 4, 1952. The award was challenged by the mill-owners unsuccessfully before the Judicial Commissioner of Ajmer and the Supreme Court. In 1956 the minimum wage was revised after enquiry into the matter by Dr. R. N. Bagchi. In 1957, the Central Wage Board was appointed which divided textile centres of the country into two categories according to regions; Bombay, Punjab, Delhi, U.P., West Bengal, Madras and Mysore were included in the first category and other centres in the second category. An increase at the average rate of Rs. 6 per worker per month was recommended to workers of factories situated in places of category II. The following table shows gradual increase in minimum wages since 1939. The annas and pies for years prior to introduction of decimal coinage have been converted to nearest equivalent in the new system.

(Rupees)					
Year	Basic pay	Dearness Allowance	War Allowance	Bonus	Total
1939	8	3.50	—	—	11.50
1941	8	4	—	—	12
1942 (Oct.)	8	4	—	1	13
1942 (Nov.)	8	4	2.25	1	15.25
1943 (Jan.)	8	4	4	2.67	18.67
1943 (Nov.)	8	4	9	3.50	24.50
1944-45	8	4	9	4.37	25.37
1946	8	4	9	5.25	26.25
1948	8	16	—	6	30
1950	25	20	—	—	45
1953	30	26	—	—	56
1956	30	30	—	—	60
1960	36	30	—	—	66

The total wage bill of the factories for the period 1957-60 is given in the table below:

(Rupees)			
Year	Krishna Mill	Edward Mill	Mahalakshmi Mill
1957	16,43,965.92	11,71,392.86	10,53,389.07
1958	16,45,460.48	11,24,833.22	10,55,706.69
1959	15,63,772.21	9,10,624.93	10,01,789.40
1960	16,16,604.54	11,44,336.00	11,20,952.12

At the end of 1960, the authorised capital of the industry was 1,23,90,000 as shown below:

Item	Krishna Mill	Edward Mill	Mahalakshmi Mill
Authorised Capital	17,50,000	6,40,000	1,00,00,000
Paid up Capital	17,48,500	6,40,000	12,99,600
Total number of shares	3,500	1,280	1,00,000
No. of Shares issued	3,497	1,280	12,996
No. of Shares subscribed	3,497	1,280	12,996
No. of Share holders	75	182	411
Original value of Shares	500	500	100

The principal sources of finance for the industry are issue of shares, loans from banks and managing agents and public deposits. The Rajasthan Financial Corporation too, has of late, entered the field. The following total amounts of loans from all sources combined, have been taken by the Beawar textile mills since 1957:

Year	Mahalakshmi Mill	Edward Mill	Krishna Mill
1957		13,73,001.51	40,26,135.28
1958		11,00,690.59	44,27,733.32
1959	5,28,716.82	6,19,413.79	35,63,551.46
1960	12,38,294.27	29,98,431.41	41,63,702.72

The production of the textile industry can broadly be divided into three categories, viz., cloth, yarn and bye-products. The cloth is of coarse variety and is released for sale mostly unwashed, undyed and unprinted, apparently due to scarcity of water. As for yarn, the major part is consumed in the mills themselves and the rest is sold to handloom weavers. During the various phases of the process of spinning and weaving about 20 per cent cotton is wasted, in the form of cotton, yarn and rags. These waste products are sold out at cheap prices.

The bulk of the production is consumed within Rajasthan where

coarse cloth is still used by the rural people. The rest is exported mainly to Punjab, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.

The profits and losses of the individual mills are shown in the following table.

Year	Krishna Mill	Edward Mill	Mahalakshmi Mill
1939	49,249	1,13,737	70,327
1940	1,10,863	59,251	92,402
1941	2,01,143	2,29,011	2,81,454
1942	4,22,523	12,89,490	3,17,161
1943	4,46,717	7,49,560	6,46,521
1944	2,67,294	3,53,287	1,11,551
1945	2,25,541	5,17,532	1,89,334
1946	1,81,984	5,42,696	1,74,618
1947	1,34,086	1,43,870	1,14,277
1948	4,25,388	10,22,300	3,03,340
1949	2,49,709	2,20,633	2,88,730
1950	24,286	- 4,95,490	- 18,335
1951	5,363	- 2,24,309	- 24,570
1957	- 7,68,172.60	- 65,298.37	- 80,866.16
1958	- 3,24,539.04	- 1,88,339.13	- 1,19,468.85
1959	- 6,37,300.65	- 14,95,580.01	- 8,77,644.41
1960	34,760.12	4,34,424.98	2,13,701.46

The table shows that the highest profits were earned during the war years. After 1950, the mills had been showing losses for some years. All of them had recovered by 1960.

Railway Establishments

The Railways employ about 8,000 persons in their four establish-

—Indicates loss.

ments, viz., Locomotive Workshops, Carriage and Wagon Workshops, Signal and Engineer Workshops and the Inspector of Works Workshop.

The construction of the buildings for these shops was started early in 1877 and completed by the end of 1879. Even before the buildings were completed, it was felt that the space would be insufficient. Therefore, stores were moved to a separate depot in 1880-81, a little south of the main building and new shops were built for the carriage and wagon workshop in 1884. The central shops were, however, occupied only in 1886-87 when the workshop moved to Ajmer from Agra.

It is interesting to note that Ajmer was selected as the site for these important workshops even though it did not meet the requirements laid down by experts for the location of railway repair workshops viz., (1) location of the place in relation to traffic, (2) labour supply, (3) site, form, levels and approaches, (4) water supply, (5) transportation lead from sources of raw materials, stores and plants and (6) location in relation to the administration headquarters of the railways.

As to the suitability of Ajmer in view of the above conditions, it will be seen that Ajmer is a traffic centre which consideration may weigh in its favour for the establishment of the loco shops, but as the shops in Ajmer were meant to be combined loco and wagon shops, the choice seems to be rather queer. Labour, especially skilled, was imported from Agra. The south-eastern part of the city chosen for site at that time, seemed enough but present expansion plans are being stalled by paucity of space. Water supply position in Ajmer was not very comfortable and at one point experts had even recommended the shifting back of these workshops to Agra. The place is far from coal and iron fields. The only factor about which there is no controversy was its being headquarters of the meter-gauge system, but this, in any case, is not very important and definitely not enough to dictate a decision by itself. In brief, the situation was put by Humphries and Srinivasan Committee in these words: "Ajmer is 611 miles by rail from Bombay, there being a change of gauge at Ahmedabad, mid-way between the two places. It is not situated in an industrial area in proximity to iron and coal, the water supply cannot be regarded as satisfactory and labour is not particularly cheap and efficient."

However, the situation has improved in recent years. Water supply has been augmented and with the increased mobility of labour, it is

no longer necessary to depend entirely on local resources. Besides manufacture of locomotives has already been stopped since 1950.

The Locomotive Workshop employs about four thousand persons and was the first place in India to manufacture meter-gauge locomotives. Writing in 1947, Mr. P. R. Agarwal, former Deputy Director of Mechanical Engineering, Railway Board said, "The work of construction of locomotives at Ajmer does not consist only of erecting the imported parts of a locomotive manufactured elsewhere, but covers the complete process of manufacture from the raw material to the finished product, except the importation of proprietary fittings and other materials not produced in this country."

Success in locomotive manufacture was achieved in 1896 when the first engine, a six-wheeler of the 0-6-0 type (F Class) weighing $30\frac{1}{4}$ tons, rolled off the assembly line. This was followed by nine more engines in the next seven years.

The programme of construction followed at Ajmer was varied and constant emphasis was placed on improvement. The F type was followed by M class (4-4-0). Both these types were built according to the designs obtained from Messers Dubs & Co., and Messers Nielson & Co. respectively of Glasgow.

A more ambitious programme was launched in 1909 and the BESA locomotive of the 4-6-0 type of 61.2 tons (P class) was introduced, the total number of such engines built upto 1923 being 74.

Simultaneously, work was proceeding at the Ajmer drawing office to improve upon drawings obtained from abroad and to produce an indigenous design. As a result, the M2 class (4-4-0 type*) mail engine was put on rails in 1919. Other classes which followed, were D.H.G. and G2, all designed at Ajmer. Later, the production of other standardized YB and YF locomotives was also undertaken. The last order for the tank locomotives XTBG of the 4-4-0 type was completed in 1950.

By 1950, when the construction work was stopped after the Chitrangan workshop had gone into production, a total of 465 locomotives had been manufactured as shown under:

* A 4-4-0 engine would consist of two axles (4 wheels) grinding in front followed by similar number and driven by cylinders, through connecting rods. Such a unit will not have trailing carrying axle.

Year	No. of Locomotives built	
1896-1900	..	13
1901-1905	..	31
1906-1910	..	59
1911-1915	..	66
1916-1920	..	56
1921-1925	..	54
1926-1930	..	61
1931-1935	..	60
1936-1940	..	34
1941-1945	..	15
1946-1950	..	16
TOTAL	..	465

Mr. Agrawal has also given comparative figures from 1930 to 1939 to show that the price (per ton) of locomotives manufactured at Ajmer has consistently been lower than that of imported ones. These are given in the table below:

Year	Cost per ton of Locomotive weight in case of	
	Imported engine	Ajmer built engine
1930	1,170	1,000
1931	1,060	1,080
1932	1,130	1,040
1933	1,299	1,160
1935	—	1,130
1936	1,300	—
1937	1,562	1,500
1938	1,650	1,525
1939	1,700	1,630

Since 1950, efforts have been concentrated on developing the repair facilities. The following table shows the total number of the various types of repairs undertaken at the workshops after 1950:

Year	Periodical Overhaul	Inter Overhaul	Special Repairs	Petty Repairs	Total I Class Standrad Repairs
1950-51	104	73	11	20	116.14
1951-52	112	70	23	16	122.92
1952-53	139	73	13	24	143.13
1953-54	126	88	49	15	171.66
1954-55	138	75	40	6	163.08
1955-56	142	77	37	1	181.15
1956-57	134	83	60	2	163.73
1957-58	156	75	8	2	181.17
1958-59	184	81	22	4	216.74
1959-60	150	121	26	4	228.08
TOTAL	1,385	816	289	94	1,678.65

First remodelling of the workshop was undertaken by the Railway Board in 1944. It was also proposed to augment the manufacturing capacity. This idea, was, however, dropped in 1945. In 1947, an officer of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway was asked to draw up a remodelling plan but he did not accept the offer. The former Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway also went ahead with its own plans for improvement of the workshops. In 1950, a programme for 50 per cent increase in the Boiler shop output was drawn up. In 1951-52 a more comprehensive final works programme was approved. But before the scheme could be put through, the railways were reorganized, Ajmer falling under the Western Railways. Due to the amalgamation of State railways, the meter-gauge holding of the Western Railway increased immensely and in order to cope with the additional work load, the Railway Board approved a remodelling plan estimated to cost about Rs. 47 lakh which aimed at developing an annual repair capacity of 264 locomotives at the end of the second Five Year Plan. Besides the repair work, the workshop is manufacturing some spare parts.

The construction of building for the second workshop, viz., the Carriage and Wagon Workshop, was started along with the Locomotive Workshop as it was originally planned to house both in a composite building. But even as the construction was progressing, it was felt that one building would be insufficient for both. As such a separate building was constructed for the Carriage and Wagon shops in 1884-

The various departments in the workshops are: repair shop for under-frame of bogies and wagons, painting and trimming shop, blacksmith shop, millwright shop, machine shop and saw mill. The workshop employs about 3,600 persons. A feature of the workshop is the Chemical and Metallurgical Laboratory and Testing House set up in 1903 for steel foundry work as well as water testing. The laboratory also carries out analysis and tests on a variety of other materials used in railway workshops such as pigments, oil, coal, timber, greases, acids, disinfectants, butter, beverages, etc.

The third workshop, the Signal and Telecommunication Workshop, is situated at a little distance from the Locomotive Workshop, north of the Martindale Bridge. The daily employment in the workshop is about 350 persons and the work includes repair, maintenance and manufacture of signalling and tele-communication equipment. Items manufactured here are supplied to the entire Western Railway according to demands which are routed through the central agency of the Chief Signal and Tele-communication Engineer of the Western Railway at Bombay.

There is also a section in the workshop, for the manufacture of permanent way material like different kinds of points and crossings. Block instruments, which used to be imported, are now manufactured at these workshops.

Small Industries

It is in the field of small industries that the district has made rapid progress during the last 50 years. The trend has been more marked in recent decades. A large number of new lines of production have been opened up. Thus, there at present, 12 chemical and pharmacy works, 2 cycle part manufacturing units, one unit manufacturing scientific instruments, 6 ink manufacturers, 3 sewing machine part makers, 2 units for the manufacture of hospital equipment and 3 sanitary ware plants.

There are in all, 250 units manufacturing various articles on small scale. The following categorywise list shows the number of these units:—

Category	Number of units
1. Snuff	5
2. Cycle parts manufacture	2
3. Scientific instruments	1

Category	Number of units
4. Water pipes and other sanitation articles	3
5. Oil mills	3
6. Musical instruments	3
7. Brass engraving	2
8. Artificial jewellery	3
9. Hosiery	3
10. Rolling	1
11. Distillery	1
12. Gota and Zari	13
13. Ink	6
14. Emery grinding stone	1
15. Marble polishing and crushing	4
16. Soap manufacture	13
17. Dal	5
18. Chemical and pharmacy	12
19. Perfumery	2
20. Carpentry and furniture	12
21. Leather footwear and shoe making	15
22. General engineering and motor parts	32
23. Hospital equipment	2
24. Brass and copper utensils	4
25. Iron	16
26. Biscuit and confectionery	6
27. Printing presses	26
28. Mineral industries	3
29. Tanneries	4
30. Sewing machines	3
31. Miscellaneous	44
TOTAL	250

Only 116 of these units (including large scale ones) had been brought under the operation of the Factories Act upto the end of 1960. The more important ones are described below¹:—

1. Some industries like *bidi*, *gota*, etc. are small scale industries as well cottage industries. As such they find mention in both sections.

WOOL CLEANING—This industry is almost completely localized at Beawar on account of its being an important mart for the wool trade. Of the 36 registered factories for wool cleaning, as many as 34 are situated at Beawar, the remaining two being at Kekri. In all, these units employ about 1,900 persons. The two largest employ 187 and 180 persons each. Medium size units number 5 and employ about 75 persons each. The rest employ about 30 each.

COTTON GINNING AND BAILING—A total of 16 units have been registered as cotton ginning and bailing factories, providing employment to about 675 persons. Kekri has seven cotton ginning and bailing factories, Beawar and Bijainagar four each and Kishangarh one. The bigger factories employ 75 persons each, and are situated at Kekri, Bijainagar and Beawar. Most others have in their employ less than 50 workers each.

Cotton ginning and bailing industry is as old as the textile industry of the district and must have come up as an auxiliary of that bigger industry. The large number of units at Kekri is explained by its importance in growing of cotton. A major part of the area under cotton in the whole of district, is in Kekri tahsil.

WOOL AND COTTON PRESSING—This industry employs a total of 274 persons in the registered sector which consists of five factories, three at Beawar and two at Kekri. Two of the units at Beawar employ 75 persons each and the third, 45. The employment in Kekri factories is 43 and 36.

The wool cleaning and pressing industry gets raw wool from other districts of the state and Madhya Pradesh and makes about 30,000 bales every year of the value of Rs. 1,000 each. Only about 10 per cent of the wool thus pressed, is consumed in India. The rest is exported by firms situated at Bombay and other business centres. The industry is included in the schedule attached to the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

Similarly, the cotton ginning and pressing industry gets cotton, besides from within the district itself and other parts of Rajasthan, from Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab and Maharashtra. The total output approximates 40,000 bales, each of the value of Rs. 450. About 10 per cent of the production is consumed within the district and a like quantity is exported abroad while 30 per cent of the production, is consumed in other parts of Rajasthan. The remaining 50 per cent

goes to other states, e.g., Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, etc. Wages in the industry range between Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 3.00 per day.

After cotton ginning, the greatest number of registered units belongs to printing industry. The 13 units employ a total of about 350 persons. Of these, nine are at Ajmer and two each at Beawar and Kishangarh. The largest printing press belongs to the Western Railway and employs 187 persons. Besides doing miscellaneous printing works for the Railways, this press prints the railway tickets. The rest of the units employ between 4 and 26 persons. The industry receives orders generally from all important places in Rajasthan and the annual turnover approximates Rs. 40 lakh. Wages range from Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 5.

BIDI—Three hundred and three persons employed in this industry in eight registered factories, all at Beawar. The largest unit employs 87 persons. Others employ between 20 to 50 persons. The industry gets raw materials from Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Bengal. The annual turnover is of the value of approximately 50 lakhs of which as much as 80 per cent goes out to other states. The industry is under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

POWER—Only six of the eight power houses in the district, have been registered. All the eight have been described in detail earlier in this chapter.

ROLLING INTO BASIC FORMS—The industry consists of four units: one iron and steel re-rolling mills, two iron foundries and one metal works. These four registered factories give employment to about 304 persons out of whom 44 are in the rolling mill at Ajmer, 201 in the metal works at Kishangarh and 59 in iron foundries both of which are at Ajmer. The products of the iron units include round and flat bars of different gauges and such articles as boxes, buckets, steel furniture, agricultural implements, etc. Approximately 30 per cent of the bars are used within the district and the rest, in other parts of Rajasthan and Gujarat. The wages in the industry range between Rs. 2 and Rs. 4 per day. The industry uses mild steel, and high carbon steel which is obtained from such centres as Bhilai, Rourkela and Jamshedpur. Some iron and steel scrap is obtained from the Railways locally. The total annual value of the production is approximately Rs. 12 lakh. The units producing boxes etc. use galvanized and black iron sheets and cold-rolled black sheets. The value of annual production of such items is approximately Rs. 25 lakh of which about 40 per cent is consumed within the district and the rest, in other parts of Rajasthan. Wages range between Rs. 3 and 7 per day. The metal

works, produce utensils generally used in Indian homes. The metals (copper, zinc, tin, brass, etc.) are obtained from open market and also through the State Trading Corporation. The annual production approximates Rs. 2 lakh of which about two-fifths is sold within the district and rest, in other parts of Rajasthan. Wages in the industry are between Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per day.

SPINNING AND WEAVING—The bigger cotton spinning and weaving mills fall in the category of large scale industry and have, therefore, been described in this chapter earlier. Here only the smaller units worked by handloom are being described. There are only three such registered factories, two at Kishangarh and one at Ajmer. The total number of persons employed in these factories, is 115; 90 in Kishangarh and 25 in Ajmer. The industry procures yarn and dyes from local markets and from Maharashtra and Gujarat. The production, consisting of bed sheets, bed and pillow covers, table cloths, shirting, etc. is of the annual value of about Rs. 5 lakh. A very large portion of the production (about 80 per cent) is sent out to other states and other parts of Rajasthan. Wages in the industry are from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per day.

ICE AND AERATED WATER—There are three units employing in all, 69 persons. Two of these are at Ajmer and one at Kishangarh. Fruit essences, sugar and gas for the industry come from Delhi and Bombay. Almost the entire production (about Rs. 7 lakh per year) is consumed within the district. The industry has a wage level between Rs. 3 and Rs. 7 per day.

GOTA—Manufacture of gota is carried on on a very small unit basis and as such only two of the 13 gota factories, have been covered by the factory legislation. Both of these factories are at Ajmer and employ a total of 26 persons.

The whole industry can be divided into two categories, gota wire drawing and gota manufacture. The former uses copper and tin procured through permits and also from open market (in the form of scrap) and produces gota wire worth about Rs. 15 lakh annually. In the latter industry, the principal raw materials are the gota wire and yarn which are obtained from local merchants who import a part of the requirement from Gujarat. Gota worth about Rs. 30 lakh is produced annually. Only about one-fifth of the production (of both sectors), is consu-

med within the district, the rest is exported to neighbouring districts and other states. Wages in the industry are from Rs. 5 to 10 per day.

DISTILLATION—There are two registered distilleries in the district, one each at Beawar and Ajmer. The Ajmer unit is owned by the Ganga Nagar Sugar Mills Ltd., a Government of Rajasthan controlled undertaking and produces country liquor. It employs 37 persons. The Beawar distillecry employs 35 persons.

The industry obtains rectified spirit from Uttar Pradesh, Bengal and other parts of Rajasthan, gur from Uttar Pradesh, spices from local market, and kesar and kasturi from dealers of the Kashmir products or direct from Kashmir government. The Ajmer unit produces goods worth about Rs. 10 lakh. An estimated 80 per cent of the production is consumed within the district and the rest, in other parts of the state.

HOSIERY—The hosiery industry employs 29 persons in two registered factories, one each at Beawar and Ajmer.

The yarn for the hosiery industry, is obtained from Rajasthan and Madras. The principal commodity produced is the cotton vest. Total annual production is of the approximate value of Rs. 3 lakh. About one-fifth of the production is consumed within the district and one-half in other parts of Rajasthan. The rest is exported to other parts of the country except Punjab and Bengal. The wages range between Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 5 per day.

OTHERS—There is a confectionary factory at Ajmer which employs about 14 persons and produces biscuits, cakes, breads etc. and obtains raw materials from the local market and sometimes from Delhi and Bombay.

The dairy industry (there is only one registered unit at Ajmer which employs about 14 people) has an annual turnover of Rs. 4 lakh. Milk is collected from villages, milk products like ghee and butter are also marketed. About four-fifth of the production is consumed locally and the remainder finds its way to adjoining districts.

One factory manufactures scientific instruments like hot air electric ovens, hot plates, incubators etc. worth about Rs. 3.5 lakh. There is very little local market and as much as 98 per cent of the production is exported to States like Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra etc. Wages in the industry are from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 8. The princi-

pal commodities used in their manufacture, are brass and copper sheets, stainless steel sheets, lead, mercury, glass tubes, porcelain, thermostats, plastics and other accessories.

The Burmah Shell depot at Ajmer employing 15 persons, has been registered as a petroleum products industry. An industrial corporation, also at Ajmer, which employ about 12 people, has been classified as a general jobbing and industrial concern. A mineral based industry at Kishangarh employs 15 people and a pharmaceutical concern at Ajmer, 38 people.

Cottage Industries

COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING—Cotton spinning and weaving is an ancient art and is amongst the oldest cottage industries. Upto the end of the nineteenth century, handloom weaving was a flourishing industry. With the introduction of mill-made cloth, the industry declined and weavers sought other occupations. It was not till World War II which caused a sudden shortage of cloth that the industry was able to climb back on the road to recovery. The industry at present, engages a large number of persons and weavers can be found in almost every big village. Yarn is generally spun on the traditional *Charkha* though at some places, the *ambar charkha* is also becoming popular. The average daily income of a spinner varies from annas six to one rupee according to the time devoted in spinning and the type of *charkha* used. The cloth woven from handspun yarn is called *khadi*. The production and sale of *khadi* is supervised by the *Khadi Sangh*. The principal products are coating, shirting, bed covers, towels, etc. These sell from Rupee 1.00 to Rs. 4.00 per yard according to the quality of cloth.

Another branch of the weaving industry is handloom weaving, which uses mill spun yarn. About 5,000 weavers are engaged in handloom weaving. There are 110 registered co-operative societies which cover about 2,000 weavers. The cloth of such co-operative societies as are affiliated to the *Rajasthan Raj Bunkar Sahkari Sangh*, is sold throughout Rajasthan, through the various handloom sales depots. The average monthly production in these co-operative societies is of the order of 1,50,000 yards valued at about Rs. 3,00,000.

Weaving is a full time industry and is carried on throughout the year. Generally, the whole family works; weaving is done by men, the women helping in subsidiary processes like sorting, winding, sizing, finishing etc.

GOTA MANUFACTURE—Gota making is another traditional industry of the district. About 5,000 families depend upon this profession for their livelihood. *Badla* (thin silver and gold plated wire), the principal raw material is obtained from merchants at Ajmer. Artificial silk yarn, some of which comes from Surat, is also used. Gota is manufactured in much the same way as handloom cloth. The weavers are to be found mostly, in Ajmer, Kishangarh and Bhinai.

WOOL WEAVING—This is not important and is not conducted on any appreciable scale, the only important centre for wool weaving being Kekri. The district produces only coarse varieties of wool and the only use local weavers put it to is to make *googies*, thick woollen robes which are also used as rain coats when occasion demands.

LEATHER TANNING AND SHOE MAKING—The district has a live-stock population of 15 lakh. The panchayat samitis give contracts for collection of the hides of dead animals. Considerable quantities are exported to Kanpur. The rest is utilized by numerous petty tanners found everywhere in the district. The *mochies* have so far, been using the bag tanning method but efforts are being made to popularize the pit tanning method. The tanned hides are purchased by shoe-makers most of the whom belong to the *mochi* caste.

The tanners usually reside near water, a plentiful supply of which is essential for their work. The materials used are raw hides, *babul* bark, *dhokra* leaves and lime. Two or three lime pits as well as watering tanks have to be prepared. The tools of the trade are the awl, *rapi* and the leaves of date palm for stitching. The cost of these tools amounts to about Rs. 100.

On an average a family of three or four can tan 15 hides per month, the cost of preparation of which is about Rs. 400, including household expenses. The bones and hair of animals are wasted; no attempt being made to utilize them for such purposes as glue and brushes. The market for the tanned hides is usually local. They are sold to village shoe-makers or to agriculturists who use them for *charas* (leather water-lifts).

Tanners generally work from 7 a.m. till 4 p.m. with a short break at mid-day. While modern footwear is gaining popularity, there is still a great demand for old type of shoes from rural areas and from a section of people in urban areas which prefers shoes of the old type. Shoe making is still an important cottage industry. The workers generally live in towns but usually in every big village, there are one or two families of leather workers catering for the local needs.

The shoes made, range from the roughly tanned utility shoes used by the villagers for daily wear, to light, fancy shoes with heavily embroidered uppers of skin (often deer skin) or velvet. The leather artisan works in his own house assisted by his family. He uses local leather except when making quality shoes. His tools are the *ari* (awl), *rapi* (knife), *summa* (hammer), a flat piece of stone on which he works and a piece of granulated stone whet to his *rapi*. He keeps a big needle to sew the leather and a *kataṛni* to carve out the embroidery pattern.

A worker assisted by his wife can make a pair of shoes daily which brings him a rupee or two. He earns more when the demand is brisk. The demand increases in the months of October and November after the rains, in April and May, when it is very hot, and in the marriage season.

CARPENTRY AND WOODEN TOY MAKING—Carpenters are found everywhere. In the rural areas they are needed for the making and repair of agricultural implements and bullock carts, and in the towns for making various articles of daily use, including furniture. In all tahsil towns and in large villages there are families of carpenters. Every big village or a group of villages also has a carpenter who repairs and supplies agricultural implements, payment being usually in kind.

The carpenter needs wood, nails, screws and varnish. Teak wood is imported for fine furniture, while local trees supply wood for other purposes. The tools commonly used are planes, chisels, hammers, pliers, saws, etc. The wood is usually cut into pieces of the required size by saws drawn by men, as there are few power operated saw mills in the district.

Generally, carpenters execute orders in their own shops, but some also work on a daily wage basis, at the site desired by the customer.

Skilled carpenters earn Rs. 90 to Rs. 150 per month. In the rural areas, the local carpenter does all the wood work of the cultivators. He is his own master and deals directly with the consumer. His monthly income varies from Rs. 50 to Rs. 70, most of which is received in kind. The rainy season is a slack period.

Some carpenters, practising a specialized branch of the trade known as *kharad*, make wooden toys and decorate them with various appealing colours. The carpenters also make such household utilities as *chakla*, *belan*, *patta*, etc.

DYEING AND PRINTING—A few families of dyers are to be found at every large centre of population. They are called *chhipas* and *nilgars*. The wearing of bright dyed and printed cloth by women is the usual custom; white is regarded as a symbol of mourning by the orthodox which form a sizeable proportion of the population especially in rural areas. Men use turbans of various colours again, excluding white. A white turban on a person's head is taken to mean that he is mourning his father's death. The two principal garments, *lahanga* and *orhani* used by rural women are made of dyed cloth, the favourite colours being yellow, red and indigo. Before the advent of economical chemical dyes, local flowers were used by the dyers to obtain requisite shades. The flower of *kcsula* was used for yellow and that of *kasumba* for red colour.

The printers use Calico cloth for their art. Besides the usual prints tie and die materials like *laharia*, *pila* and *ponicha* are also popular. Their use is dictated by custom and occasion. *Pila* is used by a woman only after she has been blessed with a son. *Laharia* is often associated with seasons of gay and festive moods and married women and betrothed girls put on *laharia* on such festivals as *teej* and *gangor*. The cloth printing industry is mostly localised in Ajmer city. The equipment of the dyers consists of metal pots and pans plus a few earthen pots for water. The materials used are dye and wheat flour (*maida*) for sizing. The amount of work varies according to the social season. During the marriage season and on festival days there is naturally more work. Hence the income of the dyers is not regular.

POTTERY—This industry also forms a part of the village economy and *kumhars* (potters) are found in every big village, making such household things as pitchers (*matkas*) and *surahies*. During seasons of marriage, they step up production of other things like earthen cups (*shakor*as), plates etc. When Diwali approaches, earthen lamps (*diyas*) are turned out on a large scale. The potters also make *chilams* for *hukkas*, pots for storing *ghee* and oil and flower pots. The tools are the *chak* (wheel) and *danda* (stick). Clay is obtained locally. The work is done throughout the year with a short slump in the rainy season. The whole family usually works. Men make and the women put the wares out in the sun to dry, store them carefully and take them to the market for sale. Children find fun in sitting in watch over the wares when drying.

Some *kumhars* also produce bricks and *kaveloos*. These *kaveloos* baked in a kiln prepared by the worker himself. This work is carried on only in summer, from April to June. For the remaining part of the year, these *kumhars* work on farms or do some other casual labour. Be-

sides playing an important role in village economy, the *kumhar* has his socio-religious importance too. His *chak* (wheel) is worshipped in Hindu Marriages. The potter, also, is the recipient of offerings to *Sheetla*, the goddess to whom small-pox is attributed in Hindu beliefs.

BIDI—Ajmer and Beawar are the two important *bidi* making centres in the district. Leaves and tobacco are obtained from Gujarat, Kota and Jhalawar mainly. An average worker makes about a thousand *bidis* every day and gets about Rs. 1.50 in wages. The principal varieties of *bidi* produced are the *nakhoni* and the *sadi*. The former is flat ended while the latter is rounded at the end.

Bidis have a wide market throughout the country. The marketing of the product is done by dealers who finance the industry. Labour is hired either on a cash basis or by providing a certain quantity of leaves and tobacco in return for a fixed number of *bidis*.

Bidi-making is carried on throughout the year. The single worker requires very little capital and even the workshop owner employing 20 workers, has a total outlay of only about Rs. 200.

SMITHY—There are a number of *sunars* (goldsmiths) in the towns but these work more in silver than gold. They are widely distributed in all towns and bigger villages and at the census of 1961 numbered 1,440 (1,417 males and 23 females). This number does not include jewellery engravers who numbered 179 at the same time, all of them being males.

The artisan usually works in his own house assisted by the female members of his family. The occupation is hereditary. The tools consist of an anvil, hammer, tongs, nippers, pincers, pots, country-made crucibles and blow-pipes (this last is now being replaced by bellows) and equipment required for ornamental purposes. Altogether, these items cost Rs. 80 to Rs. 100.

The demand for jewellery has undergone considerable changes during the past few decades. Costly jewellery and heavy gold ornaments have gradually gone out of fashion. The high prices of gold has also affected the demand. Cheaper and lighter varieties now hold the field and there is great demand for bangles, various types of bracelets, rings and plain neck-wear in place of the old *kanthis*, *doras*, *bhujbandhs* and *kadas*. Silver ornaments are more popular in the rural areas.

Then, there are the black-smiths. Every town and big village has a number of *lohar* families attached to it, the total number of blacksmiths, hammersmiths and forgers in 1961 being 2,268. A class of people called *gadia lohars*¹ visit the villages periodically. They buy scrap iron out of which they manufacture agricultural implements and articles of daily use. They are itinerant smiths. In some places there are Mohammadan *lohars* who manufacture iron and copper articles and also repair guns. In the villages they also repair agricultural implements and receive payment in kind.

In the towns it is usual for blacksmiths to own their own shops. They make utensils like *chhalnia* (sieves), *tawas* (flat pans), *kadhais* (frying pans), large size *kadhais* properly known as *kadhava* and iron buckets for drawing water. They also undertake repairs. Some displaced persons from Pakistan are also engaged in this occupation.

Repair work and the making of minor agricultural implements is done with scrap metal. The tools used are mostly of the old type and consist of hammers anvil, a furnace and cutters. The cost of these is about Rs. 50/- for each establishment.

LAC BANGLES—This, again, is one of the old cottage industries in the district and is followed by a class of people known as *lakhars*. In all the tahsil headquarters, there are a few shops of *lakhars* who manufacture bangles of lac or coconut shell. The largest number of bangle makers is, however, to be found in Ajmer tahsil.

In the rural areas the women prefer lac bangles while in the towns they like glass bangles. In the villages bangles are worn both on the lower and upper arms. Those worn on the upper arm, are called *khanch*. They are made of coconut shell and covered with silver strips. Those worn on the lower arm are made of lac or coconut shell.

The lac is obtained locally from *pipal* tree, some quantity is imported. The principal tools are the roller and the flattner. The *lakhara* too has his social importance, for it is he who prepares *kanak*, the lac ring which every bride and bridegroom (in rural areas) must put on their wrists at the time of marriage.

1. *Gadia Lohars* are descendants of *Lohars* in service of Rana Pratap, who voluntarily went into exile with vow that they would return to Chittor only when it became free. A few of them have been settled in a colony in this district. For details see Chapter on Social Welfare.

OTHERS—Gur is made in Ajmer tahsil in small quantities.

The oil extracting industry received a temporary setback on account of competition from mills. But of late, the All India Khadi and village Industries Board has come to its rescue. Special types of *ghanis* are being introduced to increase the yield and reduce strain on the animal. Oil is extracted mainly from sesamum, mustard and castor seed. A bi-product of the oil industry is oil cake which is used generally as a fodder for the milch animals.

In Beawar and Ajmer mudhas are made by some households out of cane and reeds. These are light and strong and are reputed for their quality. These cost from Rs. 3.50 to Rs. 5.50 each depending upon size and quality. They find market, though to a small extent, outside the district also. A few articles are made out of bamboos. Training in *mudha* and chick making is also imparted to members of scheduled castes in Ajmer and Ganhera.

Industrial Potential

The district abounds in mineral wealth and more minerals including radio-active ones are being discovered. There is, as such, sufficient scope for more industries to be set up in the district. Hydro-electric power from Bhakra and Chambal projects is being made available to the district in the third Five Year Plan. The district has efficient communications and is connected by rail and road to most important centres of the country. Within the district there is a net work of bitumenized roads which make the interior easily accessible. Labour is available in plenty.

The district has made considerable progress during the plans and about 100 small scale industries owe their existence to the period from 1951 onwards. A noteworthy feature of the second Five Year Plan is the formation of the District Small Scale Industries and Handicrafts Association in 1959-60, the main object of which is to look after and protect the interests of small industries. The total membership of the association had gone upto 100 by the end of 1961.

INDUSTRIAL ESTATE—An industrial estate was started in 1958-59 at Makhupura, a village near Ajmer which in 1951 had an area of 2,278 acres, 246 houses, 292 households and a population of 1,392. The estate will provide 30 sheds 15 of which have been completed and the remaining 15 are expected to be completed soon. Ten of the completed sheds are of 'E' type and five belong to 'D' type. All the 15 completed sheds have been allotted. The estate will eventually house

industries for the manufacture of matches, locks, jute products, scientific instruments, steel furniture, plastic goods and novelties, water metres, stove burners, surgical instruments, non-ferrous wire, tower bolts, etc.

Speedy measures are being taken to develop the estate site, power connections are being given and water supply is being arranged for the sheds.

Another industrial estate is being established at Beawar. The site has been selected. But as the land is under forests, the matter for transfer of its possession is being taken up with the Forest Department. This will be a smaller estate having 20 sheds.

A third industrial area is being earmarked in Ajmer. About 100 acres of land will be acquired near the present industrial estate for this purpose.

STATE ASSISTANCE—Before April 1, 1956, there was no separate office to supervise industries in the district. A section in the office of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, dealt with these matters. The work done by the office of the District Industries Officer since its inception, is summarized below:

FINANCIAL HELP—The department has advanced loans to small scale industries worth Rs. 8,15,625 since 1955-56. The year-wise figures are as follows:

1955-56	Rs. 96,250
1956-57	Rs. 1,32,300
1957-58	Rs. 2,19,550
1958-59	Rs. 1,12,025
1959-60	Rs. 1,35,500
1960-61	Rs. 1,20,000
TOTAL	Rs. 8,15,625

This amount was disbursed to 48 different industries. A list of these industries showing against each the total amount of loan received during the period, is given at the end of the chapter. It would be observed from the list that the work gathered tempo year after year and more and more industries came forward to claim the assistance. From Rs. 96,250 in 1955-56 the amount of loans increased to Rs.

1,20,000 in 1960-61. The number of claimants increased from 13 to 18 during the same period. The peak figure was, however, reached in 1957-58 when the loan figure stood at Rs. 2,19,550 and the number of recipients at 18. Such new industries as radio assembling, lens manufacturing, artificial stone, pharmacy and electric wire making claimed aid for the first time, in 1960-61.

TRAINING OF ARTISANS—In order to impart proper training to artisans and to acquaint them with modern tools and techniques, training cum production centres were started for carpentry, blacksmithy and leather footwear trades. Three of these centres were handed over to the Pisangan Panchayat Samiti in 1959. The remaining three centres have trained 175 persons; the number of persons trained at individual centres being as follows: Carpentry centre, Ajmer (58), Blacksmithy centre, Beawar (60) and Leather footwear centre, Beawar (57). These centres were closed at the end of the Second Five Year Plan.

Two other centres purely for imparting training, one each for footwear and cutlery trades, were opened in Ajmer. These were equipped with modern machines. Thirty-eight persons were trained in the leather centre and 56 in the cutlery trade. The leather centre has been closed in the Third Plan while the cutlery one has been converted into a common facility centre.

Under another scheme, five peripetetic training centres, one each for carpentry, durr, handlooms, toys and mechanical training were started during the First Five Year Plan and were continued in the Second Plan also. The centres for carpentry, durr and handloom training have since been transferred to panchayat samitis. The remaining two centres, viz. the mechanical training centre and toy making centre (both at Ajmer), have trained 59 and 75 persons respectively.

The toy making centre has now been abolished while the mechanical centre has been merged with the common facility centre.

INDUSTRIAL SCHEME FOR LADIES—A training cum production centre for tags and file fasteners was started in 1960-61, at the state run rescue home for destitute women. The centre has imparted training to 27 women so far, two of whom have been absorbed in the centre itself as instructresses. About 50 per cent of the trained women have taken up work in the same line. Some of them have been granted loans also.

REHABILITATION OF GADIA LOHARS—For rehabilitating the Gadia lohars, a tribe always on the move in their carts, a large workshop was

started in 1959-60, in the colony built for them at Ajmer. Production of agricultural implements has been taken up in this workshop. At present, 50 *lohars* are on the pay roll of the workshop getting daily wages between Rs. 2/- and Rs. 4/-.

HANDICRAFTS EMPORIUM—A handicrafts emporium was opened at Ajmer in May, 1957. The emporium sells handicrafts from all districts of the state. The sales during some previous years were as follows:

1957-58	Rs. 13,960
1958-59	Rs. 18,852
1959-60	Rs. 24,488
1960-61	Rs. 22,000
TOTAL	Rs. 79,300

HANDLOOM SALES DEPOTS—Three such depots were started during the Second Plan, one each at Pisangan, Kishangarh and Beawar. These and others started during first Five Year Plan, market the handloom cloth produced by weavers' co-operative societies which have been given 60 power looms and some handloom accessories besides Rs. 30,000 as share and working capital loans.

HOUSING—Construction of housing colony for weavers is in progress at Kishangarh. Three loans of Rs. 40,000 each, have so far been advanced. The scheme aims at housing 50 weaving families at Kishangarh.

SUPPLY OF RAW MATERIALS—The department arranges for fixed quotas of controlled commodities to be supplied to genuine consumers. So far 80 users of iron and steel have received help in this regard. Help is also given for obtaining cement and coal. About 30 industries using imported materials like German silver, stainless steel, polythene, etc. are being helped to obtain import licences.

Under the scheme for registration of small scale industries 200 applications were received, out of which 100 had been accepted by the end of 1961. Another scheme aimed at introduction of standards in footwear production. By the end of 1961, 3,500 shoes and jooties had been quality marked.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN PANCHAYAT SAMITIS—An Industries Extension Officer has been provided in each of the seven samitis of the

district. The officer and his staff look after and assist in the development of village and small scale industries. Some of the training centres have also been made over to the panchayat samitis. Separate funds have been placed with the Vikas Adhikaris for disbursement as industrial loans. Details about these are given in the chapter on 'Local Self Government.'

LABOUR'S AND EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATION—The oldest existing trade union was registered only in 1942. Trade union movement at present, extends to most of the industries viz., textile, *bidi*, ginning, *gota*, railways, power, mining, building, etc. Employees of the public works, education and insurance departments, banking, newspapers, tea trades and municipal offices have also formed their unions. In all, there were 33 registered trade unions in the district on March 31, 1961, with a total membership of 7,444 as shown below:

Name of the union	Year of registration	Membership		
		Male	Female	Total
Textile Labour Union, Beawar	1942	1521	120	1,641
Medical Employees Union, Ajmer	1945	45	—	45
Employees Association, Beawar	1949	100	—	100
Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Bijainagar	1949	286	14	300
Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Beawar	1949	2,914	294	3,208
Ajmer Bidi Mazdoor Union, Ajmer	1953	118	—	118
Rashtriya Ginning Mazdoor Sangh, Bijainagar	1956	30	20	50
The Association of Punjab National Bank Employees, Ajmer	1956	146	—	146
Rajasthan Insurance Employees Union, Ajmer.	1957	179	7	186
Municipal Mazdoor Samaj, Beawar	1957	55	2	57
Ajmer Motor Mazdoor Union, Ajmer	1957	260	—	260
Gota Mazdoor Sangh, Ajmer	1958	119	—	119
Shri Munim Gumasta Sangh, Ajmer	1958	31	—	31

Name of the union	Year of registration	Membership		
		Male	Female	Total
The Rangai Tarkash Dabkai Employees Union, Ajmer	1959	40	—	40
Ajmer Railway Porters Union, Ajmer	1959	60	—	60
The Union of the Employees of Central Board of Secondary Education, Ajmer	1959	40	—	40
The Durga Morousi Mazdoor Union, Ajmer	1959	40	—	40
Western Railway Workers Union, Ajmer	1959	80	—	80
*The All India Amalgamated Electricity Co., Employees Federation, Ajmer	1959	7 unions affiliated		
Ajmer State Electric Employees Union, Ajmer	1959	165	—	165
Agricultural Farm Workers Union, Ajmer	1959	17	—	17
Rashtriya Nagarpalika Mazdoor Sangh, Kekri, H.O. Bijainagar	1960	40	—	40
Rashtriya Mica Khan Mazdoor Sangh, Para, H.O. Bijainagar	1960	56	—	56
Ajmer Division Rashtriya Bhanwan Nirman Mazdoor Sangh, Ajmer	1960	56	—	56
The Building Material Supplier Workers Union, Ajmer	1960	27	—	27
Chini Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Bijainagar	1960	310	—	310
Rashtriya Munim Gumasta Sangh, Kekri, H.O. Bijainagar	1960	50	—	50
Rashtriya Bidi Mazdoor Sangh, Nasirabad, H.O. Bijainagar	1960	60	—	60
Brooke Bond Employees Union, Ajmer	1960	11	—	11
Rashtriya Bijli Karamchari Sangh, Bijainagar	1960	22	—	22

* Federation of Unions.

Name of the union	Year of registration	Membership		
		Male	Female	Total
Suti Mill Mazdoor Sabha, Beawar	1960	28	—	28
Ajmer Zila Patrakar Sangh, Ajmer	1960	17	—	17
P.W.D. Kamgar Union (Ajmer Division), Ajmer.	1961	55	—	55
TOTAL		6,987	457	7,444

About 16,000 persons are employed in the 116 registered industrial establishments of the district. Less than half of this number, are members of the trade unions. Trade unionism is in fact, concentrated mostly in the textile industry of Beawar which claims more than 50 per cent of the registered trade union membership of the whole district. The actual number of industrial workers and those engaged in services in more than 250 big or small establishment of the district, is however, 60,000 according to estimates of Directorate of Employment. Trade unionism, therefore, does not seem to have caught the imagination of workers as yet.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES—There were 23 disputes in 1960, out of which 17 were settled, 4 were abandoned and two were still pending at the end of the year. The greatest number of disputes occurred in textile industry (10) followed by motor transport (7), power and P.W.D. (2 each) and metal works and local bodies (1 each). The number of disputes in some previous years was greater, 44 being highest in 1959. The yearwise number of disputes since 1954, is shown below:

Year	Number of disputes
1954	16
1955	42
1956	14
1957	16
1958	41
1959	44
1960	23

The most common causes giving rise to industrial disputes are non-acceptance of workers' demands by the employers, termination of service without adequate cause, non-payment of reduction of wages and bonus, etc.

Due to active conciliation machinery, however, not all the disputes lead to stoppage of work and the number of strikes in any one year during the Second Plan, has never been greater than 3; one year actually passed without any strike. Most of the stoppages occur in the textile industry. Only once, in 1957-58, did a strike take place in another sphere, viz., municipality. The following table gives the yearly number of strikes and man-days lost during the Second Five Year Plan:

Year	No. of strikes and lockouts	No. of workers involved	No. of mandays lost
1956-57	2 (all textile)	893	1,568
1957-58	3 (textile 2, municipality 1)	1,715	9,450
1958-59	nil	nil	nil
1959-60	1 (textile)	617	1,567½
1960-61	3 (all textiles)	1,186	1,186
	9 (textile 8, municipality 1)	4,411	13,771½

LABOUR WELFARE—There are five labour welfare centres run by government in the district at Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri, Bijainagar and Kishangarh. These centres run craft classes, adult education classes, provide medical aid, give milk to children and organize cultural functions.

The railways which are the biggest industrial employers in the district, have opened canteens in their workshops and have also provided halls for rest and lunch besides water taps in all the shops. There are clubs for employees' recreation. Trips to places of educational and tourist importance are organized for the workers' children between the age of 13 and 17. Medical facilities include a hospital and a maternity home and first aid boxes in each shop. For children's education, six schools are run and a subsidized hostel is run at Ajmer where messing charges range between Rs. 7.50 to Rs. 20 per month according to the income of the parents. Besides, there are two co-operative stores and handicraft centres which aim at supplementing incomes of the III and IV class railway servants by displaying for sale, their handicrafts. The Railway Board encourages such centres by placing through regular orders for such things as simple uniforms, bed-sheets, pillow covers, etc. The

Ajmer Railway Welfare Centre near the Locomotive Workshop, was opened in 1927.

The other big employer, the textile industry at Beawar, has also taken steps towards labour welfare. There are canteens in all mills which sell snacks at concessional rates. In all the three mills, there are creches which are looked after by untrained nurses. By way of housing, the Krishna Mill has 143 chawls, (92 pucca and 51 kachcha) of the size $7' \times 5' \times 8'$ with iron roofs, some are electrified and water is drawn from municipal taps. Edward Mill has 42 chawls, all pucca and slightly bigger ($12' \times 8' \times 10'$). The 63 pucca chawls of Mahalakshmi Mill, are also of the size $12' \times 8' \times 10'$. Besides, there are 23 two-room chawls and 15 bungalow type quarters meant for the mill staff. More details about labour welfare activities are given in the chapter on 'Other Social Services'.

LABOUR LAWS—The payment of Wages Act, 1936 applies to all factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948. Laws relating to maternity benefits, minimum wage, industrial disputes, workmen's compensation, insurance, etc. have also been extended to the industries covered by them. The news paper establishments to which the Working Journalists Act, 1955 applies, are listed in Appendix 'E'. The factories having standing orders under the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, are listed in Appendix 'F'.

A classified list of factories brought under the operation of the Factories Act, 1948, is given below:

Industry	No. of units	No. of persons employed
Wool Cleaning	36	1,879
Cotton Ginning and Bailing	16	675
Printing and Binding	13	348
Tobacco	8	303
Electric Light and Power	6	417
Wool and Cotton Bailing and Pressing	5	274
Railway Workshops	4	7,806
Rolling and Metal castings	4	301
Handloom Spinning and Weaving	3	115
Cotton Spinning and Weaving	3	3,729

Industry	No. of units	No. of persons employed
Ice and Aerated water	3	69
Scientific	2	48
Gota	2	26
Distillery	2	72
Hosiery	2	29
Dairy	1	14
Minerals	1	15
Bakery	1	14
Silk	1	20
Ordnance	1	10
General Jobbing and Engineering	1	12
Petroleum Products	1	15
TOTAL	116	16,191

A full list giving the names of all registered factories is given in the appendices at the end of chapter.

APPENDIX A

Statement showing the loans to cottage and small scale industries in
Ajmer District during the period 1955-56 to 1960-61

Name of the Industry	Total loan (Rs.)
Musical instruments	3,000
Printing Presses	34,000
Hosiery industry	67,250
Niwar industry	6,250
Ice Factory	7,500
Gota and Silver Wire industry	96,000
Box and Buckets	10,300
Municipal accessories	15,500
Engineering Workshop	39,200
Hume Pipe industry	10,000
Handloom factory	12,500
Tie and Die industry	6,500
Iron factory	11,000
Shoe and Leather industry	1,32,300
Cotton Ginning Factory	36,000
Ready made cloth	4,500
Oil and Dal industry	17,500
Carpentry and Furniture industry	64,300
Chips Powder industry	15,000
Essence industry	1,000
Cap Embroidery industry	2,200
Soap and Toilet industry	24,000
Alluminium industry	10,000
Lime and Bricks Bhatta	28,775
Fruit and Vegetables industry	7,000
Brass Metal industry	6,000
Rope and Tape making industry	1,500
Cycle parts industry	13,000
Cement works	3,000

Name of the Industry	Total loan (Rs.)
Bidi industry	4,500
Toy making industry	4,500
Mineral Grinding	5,000
Poster type foundry	3,500
Agricultural Implements	17,500
Utensils manufacturing	6,000
Tin Clips and Electric works	8,000
Electroplating	5,000
Textile Accessories	2,000
Saw Mill	2,500
Ayurvedic	25,000
Radio Assembling	5,000
Lens Manufacturing	5,000
Chick and Mudha industry	1,250
Machine and Equipment industry	2,000
Artificial Stone industry	15,000
Pharmacy products	8,000
Remn industry	800
Electric Wire industry	10,000
TOTAL	8,15,625

APPENDIX B

List of registered factories in Ajmer district¹

Name of the factory	Situation	Average daily employment	Whether owned by Govt. or Private
Wool Cleaning			
1. Kishanlal Phoolchand Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
2. Jasaram Tarachand Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
3. Kishanlal Kaluram Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	75*	Private
4. Chothmal Kushaldas & Co.	Beawar	37*	Private
5. Kishanlal Phoolchand Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	25	Private
6. Ghewarchand Chandmal Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
7. Ratan Lal & Bros.	Beawar	38*	Private
8. Johar Chand Gopal Chand Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37	Private
9. Johar Chand Gopal Chand Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	25	Private
10. Kundan Mal & Swaroop Chand Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	74*	Private
11. Jasraj Jethmal Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	75*	Private
12. Sampat Ram Ganpat Ram Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
13. Chaturbhuj Chhogalal Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	38*	Private
14. Mishrilal Todarmal Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
15. Ganesh Kamal & Co. Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	38*	Private
16. Ram Gopal Vyas Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private

1. Source : Office of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Boilers, Rajasthan.

* Estimated figures.

Name of the factory	Situation	Average daily employment	Whether owned by Govt. or Private
17. Durga Prasad Vaidraj Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
18. Mahota & Brothers Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	75*	Private
19. Prem Ratan Shiv Kishan Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	33*	Private
20. Chandanmal Harshukh Lal Wool Cleaning Factory (No. 1)	Beawar	19	Private
21. Chandanmal Harshukh Lal Wool Cleaning Factory (No. 2)	Beawar	28	Private
22. Prasram H. Ahuya Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
23. Walkaran Anjaria & Co.	Beawar	180*	Private
24. Ramjiwan Chandmal Wool Cleaning Factory	Kekri	187*	Private
25. Ganeshdas Amarchand Kumavat Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	38*	Private
26. Ganji Bhanwarlal Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	38*	Private
27. Javarchand Gopalchand Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
28. Hamirmal Dalchand Wool Wool Cleaning godown	Beawar	38*	Private
29. Mishrilal Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
30. Chhogamal Vastimal Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	74*	Private
31. Keshrimal Gandhilal Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
32. Chhogalal Bhuralal Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private
33. Nandlal Shyam Sunder Wool Cleaning Factory	Beawar	37*	Private

* Estimated figures.

Name of the factory	Situation	Average daily employment	Whether owned by Govt. or Private
34. Baijnath Mohanlal Wool Cleaning Factory	Kekri	75*	Private
35. Chandmal Gulabchand Wool Cleaning Factory (No. 1)	Beawar	75*	Private
36. Chandmal Gulabchand Wool Cleaning Factory (No. 2)	Beawar	75*	Private
Cotton Ginning and Bailing			
1. Haroti Cotton Ginning Factory	Kekri	37*	Private
2. Shatarunjaya Manak Factory Co. Ltd.	Kekri	41*	Private
3. R. Jai Ginning Factory	Kekri	37*	Private
4. Ajmer Merwara Cotton Press Co.	Kekri	38*	Private
5. Shri Kamala Industries	Bijainagar	62	Private
6. The Edward Mills Co. Ltd.	Beawar	75*	Private
7. Rajputana Cotton Press Co. Ltd.	Beawar	33	Private
8. Radha Krishan Thanwardas Ginning Factory	Kekri	20*	Private
9. Rajumal Prabhudas Cotton Ginning Factory	Bijainagar	37*	Private
10. Mahalaxmi Mills Ltd., Pressing Factory	Beawar	38*	Private
11. Rajmal Sajanand Ginning Factory	Kekri	28*	Private
12. Sagarchand Amarchand Ginning Factory	Bijainagar	15*	Private
13. Shri Ganesh Cotton Ginning Factory	Beawar	38*	Private
14. Manna Purshottam Das Ginning Factory	Bijainagar	75	Private
15. Cotton Press Company	Kishangarh	26*	Private

* Estimated figures.

Name of the factory	Situation	Average daily employment	Whether owned by Govt. or Private
16. Girdhari and Sons Merwara Cotton Factory	Kekri	75*	Private

Printing and Binding

1. Vedic Yantralaya	Ajmer	17	Private
2. Fine Art Press	Ajmer	18	Private
3. Adarsh Printing Press	Ajmer	8	Private
4. Nawal Kishore Press	Ajmer	14	Private
5. Sasta Sahitya Press	Ajmer	11	Private
6. Manohar Printing Press	Beawar	15*	Private
7. Aditya Mudranalaya	Ajmer	26	Private
8. Shri Narain Press	Beawar	4	Private
9. Keshav Art Printers	Ajmer	14*	Private
10. Shri Mahavir Printing Press	Ajmer	14*	Private
11. Western Railway Ticket Printing Press	Ajmer	187*	Private
12. Gyan Sagar Press	Kishangarh	7	Private
13. Kamal Printing Press	Kishangarh	13*	Private

Tobacco

1. Amar Chand Atmaram Bidi Factory	Beawar	87	Private
2. Kalumal Ishardas Bidi Factory	Beawar	38	Private
3. Chaturbhuj Deepchand Bidi Factory	Beawar	25	Private
4. Gajanand Bidi Factory	Beawar	30	Private
5. Ganesh Bidi Factory	Beawar	46	Private
6. Mangal Singh Dhulji Bidi Factory	Beawar	27	Private
7. Bhanwar Lal Bhatti Bidi Factory	Beawar	20	Private
8. Do Bhai Bidi Factory	Beawar	30	Private

* Estimated figures.

Name of the factory	Situation	Average daily employment	Whether owned by Govt. or Private
Electric Light and Power			
1. Amalgamated Electric Supply Co., Ltd.	Ajmer	48	Private
2. The Beawar Electric Supply Co., Ltd.	Beawar	49	Private
3. R.S.E.B. Power House	Kishangarh	12	Govt.
4. W.R. Power House	Ajmer	277	Govt.
5. M.E.S. Power House	Nasirabad	22	Govt.
6. W.R. Power House	Budha Pushkar	9*	Govt.

Wool and Cotton Bailing and Pressing

1. Kekri Press Company	Kekri	43	Private
2. Hydraulic Cotton Press Co.	Beawar	36*	Private
3. New Cotton and Wool Pressing Factory	Beawar	75*	Private
4. West's Patent Press Co.,	Beawar	45	Private
5. Beawar Wool Pressing Co., Ltd.	Beawar	75*	Private

Railway Workshops

1. Loco Central Workshops	Ajmer	3,840	Govt.
2. Carriage and Wagon Workshop	Ajmer	3,587	Govt.
3. Signal Engineer Workshop	Ajmer	364	Govt.
4. Inspector of Works Workshop	Ajmer	15*	Govt.

Re-rolling and Metal Works and Rough Casting

1. Bansiwala Iron & Steel Rolling Mills	Ajmer	44*	Private
2. Mahesh Metal Works	Kishangarh	201	Private
3. Chand Iron Foundry	Ajmer	22	Private
4. Ganesh Iron Factory	Ajmer	37*	Private

* Estimated figures.

Name of the factory	Situation	Average daily employment	Whether owned by Govt. or Private	
Handloom (Spinning and Weaving)				
1. Chaudhary Handloom Factory	Kishangar	48	Private	
2. Prakash Handloom Factory	Ajmer	25*	Private	
3. Bharat Hath Kargha Vastra Utpadan Kendra	Kishangarh	42	Private	
Cotton Spinning and Weaving				
1. Edward Mills Ltd.	Beawar	1,222	Private	
2. Krishana Mills Ltd.	Beawar	1,382	Private	
3. Mahalakshmi Mills Co. Ltd.	Beawar	1,125*	Private	
Ice and Aerated Water				
1. Rajasthan Industrial Corporation	Kishangarh	38*	Private	
2. Prag Distilled Water & Ice Factory	Ajmer	16	Private	
3. Bansiwala Ice Factory	Ajmer	15*	Private	
Miscellaneous				
1. Toshwani Brothers Private Ltd.	Scientific	Ajmer	10	Private
2. Ashok Laboratories		Ajmer	38	Private
3. Rajputana Mineral Development Syndicate Ltd.		Kishangarh	15*	Private
Gota				
1. Chandmal Bhagmal Gota Factory	Ajmer	11	Private	
2. Inderchand Kundanmal Gota Factory	Ajmer	15*	Private	
Distillery				
1. Liquor Distillery	Beawar	35*	Private	
2. Shri Ganganagar Sugar Mills Ltd.	Ajmer	37*	Govt.	

* Estimated figures.

Name of the factory	Situation	Average daily employment	Whether owned by Govt. or Private
Hosiery			
1. Sacheti Hosiery Factory	Beawar	13	Private
2. Lakshmi Swadeshi Hosiery Factory	Ajmer	16	Private
Dairy Products			
1. Padma Stores	Ajmer	14	Private
Silk			
1. Bharat Rohil Silk Factory	Ajmer	20*	Private
Bakery			
1. Sindh Confectionary Biscuit Factory	Ajmer	14	Private
Ordinance			
1. Station Workshops, E.M.E.	Nasirabad	10	Private
General Jobbing and Engineering			
1. Deva Industrial Corporation Ltd.	Ajmer	12	Private
Petroleum Products			
1. Burma Shell Depot Co. Ltd.	Ajmer	15*	Private

* Estimated figures.

APPENDIX C

**List of Factories etc. in Ajmer District Covered under the
Boilder Act**

Name of the factory	No. of Boilders
Krishna Mills, Beawar	7
Edward Mills, Beawar	9
Mahalaxmi Mills, Beawar	4
Rajputana Cotton Press, Beawar	1
Municipal Committee, Beawar	2
Beawar Wool Pressing, Beawar	1
West Patent Press, Beawar	2
Hydraulic Cotton Press, Beawar	1
Ajmer Merwara Cotton Press, Kekri	1
Haroti Cotton Press, Kekri	1
Shatranj Manak Factory, Kekri	1
Kekri Press, Kekri	1
Rajasthan Industrial Corporation, Kishangarh	1
Cotton Press, Kishangarh	1
Prag Distilled Water and Ice Factory, Ajmer	2
Nav Bharat Glass Silicate & Chemical Works, Ajmer	1
Shri Kamla Industries, Bijainagar	1
New Cotton & Wool Pressing Factory, Beawar	1
TOTAL	38

APPENDIX D

List of Factories, etc. covered under the Employees' Provident Fund Act, in Ajmer District

Edward Mills, Beawar.
Krishna Mills, Beawar.
Laxmi Swadeshi Hosiery Factory, Ajmer.
Maha Laxmi Mills, Beawar.
Bijau Cotton Mills, Beawar.
Sacheti Hosiery Factory, Beawar.
Amalgamated Electricity Co., Ajmer.
Beawar Electric Supply Co., Beawar.
Bijay Sugar Mills, Bijainagar.
Automobiles Transport Co., Ajmer.
Fine Art Printing Press, Ajmer.
Bansiwala Iron & Steel Rolling Mills, Ajmer.
Chand Iron Foundry, Ajmer.
Aditya Mudranalaya, Ajmer.
Mamal & Co., Ajmer.
Pratap Singh Rathore & Co., Ajmer.
New Majestic Talkies, Ajmer.
Plaza Cinema, Ajmer.

APPENDIX E

List of Newspaper establishments in Ajmer District covered under the Working Journalists Act, 1955

1. The Hindu Daily, Ajmer.
 2. The Lahar, Ajmer.
 3. The Darbar, Ajmer.
 4. The Arya Premi, Ajmer.
 5. The Mazdoor, Ajmer.
 6. The Ashoka, Ajmer.
 7. The Jwala, Ajmer.
 8. The Meera, Ajmer.
 9. The Sansar, Ajmer.
 10. The Janta, Ajmer.
 11. The Jagran, Ajmer.
 12. The Rashtravani, Ajmer.
 13. The Azad, Ajmer.
 14. The Phulwari, Ajmer.
 15. The Nav Jyoti, Ajmer.
 16. The Hindwasi, Ajmer.
 17. The Hindu, Ajmer.
 18. The Qurbani, Ajmer.
 19. The Nyaya, Ajmer.
 20. The Meera, Ajmer.
 21. The Darbar Weekly, Ajmer.
 22. The Railwayman Weekly, Ajmer.
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APPENDIX F

**List of factories in Ajmer District having standing orders under
the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946**

1. Krishna Mills, Beawar.
 2. Maha Laxmi Mills, Beawar.
 3. Edward Mills, Beawar.
 4. Mahesh Metal Works, Kishangarh.
 5. Amalgamated Electric Supply Co. Ltd., Ajmer.
 6. Beawar Electric Supply Co. Ltd., Beawar.
 7. Kamla Industries, Bijainagar.
 8. Automobile Transport Co., Ajmer.
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CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE

Historical Aspect

Ajmer drew business classes from all over the country even during the reign of Mughal Emperors, some of whom stayed there for long periods. It was one of the earliest towns of north India where the British set up a 'factory'. The stable and sound administration introduced by the British in the early decades of the last century and efforts of officers like Col. Dixon, created a climate conducive to development of trade and commerce.

The Banking Enquiry Committee (for Centrally Administered Area) appointed by the Government of India in 1929-30, made a detailed study in Ajmer-Merwara of agricultural credit, cooperative banks, indigenous banking, investment habits and attraction of capital from other states.

The following account regarding indigenous banking appears in the report of the Committee: "The Indian States of Rajputana enjoy the reputation of being the home of indigenous banker since ancient times and Ajmer-Merwara surrounded as it is, by the old Rajput States, has some very old banking firms. The communities which practise banking are generally known by the name of *mahajans* though to some extent, even other communities have taken to banking. Among these *mahajans* are included Agarwals, Oswals, Saravagis and Mesris." The Committee gave a list of twenty nine business houses, namely (1) Rai Bahadur Seth Champa Lal Raniwala, (2) Seth Vithal Das Rathi, (3) Seth Dul Chand Kaluram, (4) Seth Kundanmal Udaimal, (5) Seth Saheb Chand Sahesmal, (6) Seth Chogalal Motilal, (7) Seth Ram Gopal Ram Swarup, (8) Seth Ram Baksh Ketsidas, (9) Seth Bal Chand Ugra Chand, (10) Seth Thakurdas Khemraj, (11) Seth Kundanmal Lal Chand, (12) Seth Deokarandas Ramkumar, (13) Seth Sher Singh Raghunath Das, (14) Seth Chunilal Onkarnal, (15) Seth Kanmal Tejmal, (16) Seth Girdhar Lal Ajodhya Pershad, (17) Seth Mulshram Sagarnal and (18) Seth Jawaharnal Chandmal, with their headquarters located at Beawar and (1) Seth Rai Bahadur Birdhmal Lodha, (2) Seth Rai Bahadur Tikamchand Soni, (3) Seth Sheodayal, (4) Seth Bishesher

Lal, (5) Seth Ram Pershad, (6) Seth Noratan Mal, (7) Seth Pokarmal and (8) Seth Hirachand Sacheti with their headquarters located at Ajmer and Seth Hiralal Rajmal and Seth Bhim Raj Chhoga Lal with their headquarters at Nasirabad and Seth Daulatram Kundanmal with headquarters at Kekri, in the district. These business houses conducted all kinds of banking business from agricultural money lending to urban money lending and some of them even worked as treasurers for some states. Most of them received deposits, but only from friends and relatives because they never harassed them for payments at the time of need. Though they still receive such deposits, the intensive banking facilities now available, have limited such deposits. Remittance of money was done through the help of *Daishani Hundis* to distant places by the *arhatias* (Commission agents) of these firms. Most of these firms are still working but only a few of them do money lending business. In the past, the indigenous bankers used to finance agriculturists either directly or through the village money lenders. A long succession of scarcity years since the turn of this century, made recoveries from the farmers difficult and after the passing of Land Alienation Regulation 1914, even the lands could not be transferred without prior sanction of the Collector. Alienation of agricultural land was prohibited to a non-agriculturist under the Regulation. This provision of law was, however, declared invalid in a Judgement by the Judicial Commission, after the Constitution of India came into force. In Rajasthan alienation of agricultural land scheduled caste/scheduled tribe tenants to non-scheduled tribe/scheduled cast persons, has been prohibited by law.

The relation of the indigenous bankers with their clients were generally cordial as they were considerate towards their clients.

Prior to 1872, the monopoly of providing money to the cultivators and others was in the hands of these professional money-lenders but after Mr. Latouche's settlement of 1872-74 and Mr. White-Way's settlement of 1884-1887, remissions in land revenue in the years of famines and lean seasons, gave a great relief to the cultivators. In Land Improvements Act (XIX of 1883) and the Agriculturists Loans Act (XII of 1884) provisions were made for advancing of loans at reasonable rates of interest to the agriculturists which proved to be very effective in supplementing the credit needs of the agriculturists. In the year 1890-91, a sum of Rs. 45.385, under the Agriculturists Loan Act, was advanced as loan to agriculturists.

The Land Improvements Act of 1883 provided for the grant of

loans for improvements such as construction of wells, drainage, reclamation of land etc. The loans were repayable in instalments, within a period fixed by the sanctioning authority, the maximum period being 15 years. The rate of interest charged was six per cent per annum. Under the Agriculturists Loans Act, loans were granted for the purchase of cattle or seed, or for the relief in distress due to destruction of crops by drought, floods etc. The maximum period for repayment was 20 years, while the rate of interest was the same as under the Land Improvement Act.

The following table shows the advances made under these Acts, during the three years ending 1927-28:—

Year	Loans under	
	Land Improvements Act	Agriculturists Act
	Rs.	Rs.
1925-26	72,200	13,650
1926-27	44,956	52,505
1927-28	6,000	100

Though comparatively greater help was afforded to the agriculturist in 1929 by way of *Takavi* loans, the cumbersome procedure, the delays in disposal of the applications and the inadequacy of the amounts sanctioned, marred the popularity of the scheme. That is why the Banking Enquiry Committee (1929-30) felt that, "Almost everywhere we noticed a general feeling that, in spite of the low rate of interest charged by government, it was preferable to borrow from the village co-operative society and in many cases even from the mahajan or the agriculturist *sahukar*." They recommended that, "these difficulties are not inherent, in the system and easily can be removed. But there should be proper coordination among the various credit agencies, so as to prevent overlapping, and the financial assistance rendered by government should be granted, not in a haphazard fashion but in accordance with a programme drawn up by the agricultural experts."

Thus it is very clear from the findings of the Banking Enquiry Committee for the Centrally Administered Areas (1929-30) that the agriculturist mainly depended for his credit needs on the mahajans and agriculturist money-lenders. An analysis of the survey of the relative importance of the various money-lending sources in 20 villages revealed that out of the total credit needs, the mahajan met 82.5 per cent, the agriculturist money lender 10.48, Co-operative Bank 6.6, and Government .29 per cent. Similarly, the survey of indebtedness in 511

villages showed that in rural areas *mahajan* met 80.34 per cent of the credit needs, the agriculturist money lender 10.57, Co-operative Bank 8.64 and Government 0.05 per cent.

The stipulated rates of interest vary with the character of the borrower, the security offered by him and some times, the purposes for which he borrowed. During the enquiry by the said committee, it was stated by the officials of the Co-operative department of Ajmer-Merwara that 15 per cent to 24 per cent was the usual rate of the local money lenders and that their extra-ordinary rates were as high as 150 per cent. The analysis of the results of survey in 511 villages carried out by the Committee, regarding the ordinary or the most widely prevalent rate of interest on second loans (mortgage of agricultural land) and unsecured loans, was as follows:

Secured Loans

S. No.	Circle	Tashil	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1.	Jawaja	Beawar	12
2.	Nayanagar	Beawar	12
3.	Kalinger	Beawar	12
4.	Bali	Todgarh	12
5.	Ramser	Ajmer	12
6.	Kekri	Kekri	12
7.	Chang	Beawar	18
8.	Bhiem	Todgarh	13.5
9.	Bhagana	Todgarh	10.5
10.	Gagwana	Ajmer	9
11.	Srinagar	Ajmer	9
12.	Derathu	Ajmer	9
13.	Pushkar	Ajmer	6
14.	Jethana	Ajmer	6

The Banking Enquiry Committee for the Centrally Administered Areas (1929-30), conducted intensive and extensive surveys, to ascertain the extent of rural indebtedness in the various sections of rural population of Ajmer-Merwara and also listed the causes of this problem. For extensive survey, 3,162 families were selected out of 20 villages by sampling method. In their occupational distribution, the number of agriculturist proprietors and tenant families was 2,912, landless *mahajans* nine and landless labourers and artisans, 241. The results of intensive survey indicated an average gross debt of Rs. 400.8 per family and a net debt per family of Rs. 329.1. On the basis of Census figures for 1921 this meant a gross debt of Rs. 314 lakhs and a net debt of Rs. 258 lakhs. The gross debt per family of owners and cultivators was Rs. 398 and multiplied by the total number of agriculturist families at the Census of 1921, the total debt of the agriculturists of the province (at that time Ajmer-Merwara was a British administered province) came to Rs. 272 lakhs.

The extensive survey of 511 villages embracing 37,635 agriculturist families, revealed a gross debt of Rs. 519.4 per family of agriculturists. Though this inquiry was conducted in *khalsa area*, but taking a bold assumption that both the areas had the same credit and facilities for borrowing, the gross debt for the whole province was calculated by the Committee by multiplying the average gross debt per family with 68,294—the total number of agriculturist households at the Census of 1921. This meant a gross debt of Rs. 2,54,71,803 for the agriculturists as a class. For the rural population other than the agriculturists gross debt was calculated to be Rs. 3,154 thousands and the gross debt for the entire rural population, was estimated to be near about Rs. 386 lakhs. It was further revealed by this survey that the percentage of indebted families, was highest among proprietors and cultivators of land and lowest among the *mahajans*. The landless labourers stood between the two. The net debt per really indebted family was Rs. 796.8 for the *mahajans*, Rs. 564.3 for proprietors and cultivators of land and Rs. 424.1 for landless labourers. So it was true, though no doubt surprising, that the indebted families among *mahajans* were heavily indebted as compared with the agriculturists. As all these figures of rural indebtedness were collected between November and February, before the season for annual repayments, which commenced in March and April, it was thought that this figure was rather high. Thus the Committee thought that the normal debt of the agriculturist could not exceed Rs. 213 lakhs, as by the end of the year, about 40 per cent of the outstanding loans were repaid.

In tracing the causes of indebtedness in the rural areas, the total figures of loans of Rs. 1,97,35,176, calculated through extensive survey of 511 villages, were split up under loans taken for productive purposes, unproductive but necessary purposes and unproductive and at least partly unnecessary or undesirable purposes. These are as follows:—

I. Productive purposes

	Rs.
(1) Seed and manure	30,40,645
(2) Rent and land revenue	50,177
(3) Payment of wages to labourers	61,272
(4) Sinking of wells and agricultural improvements	7,08,198
(5) Purchase of land and bringing fallow land under cultivation	6,83,729
(6) Improved agricultural implements	1,230
(7) Purchase of cattle	17,04,768
(8) Trade	1,42,808
	<hr/>
	63,92,827

II. Unproductive but necessary purposes

(1) Repayment of earlier debts and interest thereon	56,08,944
(2) Construction of houses	1,42,868
(3) Famine and other kinds of distress	14,81,473
(4) Education of children	6,295
	<hr/>
	72,39,580

III. Unproductive and at least partly unnecessary or undesirable purposes

(1) Marriage and social ceremonies	59,58,247
(2) Litigation	1,44,522
	<hr/>
	61,02,769

In the face of these figures, it is not possible to make the general statement that the major cause of the indebtedness of the agriculturist in his extravagance or his habit of indulging in social expenditure on marriage ceremonies and litigation. It was suggested by the Committee that if, however, the agriculturist having a holding more than 10 acres could check his expenditure for unproductive purposes, only borrowed for productive purposes, and saved something during

surplus years for lean years, his extent of indebtedness, could be reduced to an appreciable extent. The condition of those, having a holding of less than 10 acres each, was however, considered to be depressing, it being an uneconomic holding.

The following analysis of the purposes for which loans were advanced by cooperative societies during 1924-25 to 1928-29, shows that even the cooperative societies had not restricted their advances to productive purposes alone.

Source:—Banking Inquiry Committee Report, p.p. 191.

	Amount in Rs.				
	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29
I. Productive					
Fodder	700	30,631	8,082	1,367	11,572
Seed and manure	33,765	24,695	50,243	18,764	32,628
Payment of land revenue	8,641	8,265	12,607	20,709	21,142
Wedding and miscellaneous	4,651	2,315	5,884	1,877	2,442
Improvement of wells and nadis	3,008	56,602	2,513	3,006	5,978
Agricultural improvements	1,125	1,013	1,066	2,855	3,426
Purchase of land	1,572	3,027	6,814	3,441	6,403
Redemption of land	10,183	5,043	6,101	7,093	14,269
Purchase of plough cattle	8,509	11,431	10,612	10,438	18,864
Milch cattle	3,156	2,262	1,641	1,288	4,195
Petty trade	3,109	4,386	902	1,198	4,305
TOTAL	78,419	1,49,670	1,06,465	72,036	1,25,224
Percentage to Grand Total	64.5	70.4	65.3	57.2	59.2
II. Unproductive but necessary					
Repayment of old debts	20,743	30,442	27,245	19,012	31,003
Building	639	445	555	489	2,049
Maintenance	2,912	8,805	9,157	4,886	13,630
Miscellaneous	2,759	3,427	2,730	16,620	15,457
TOTAL	27,053	43,119	39,687	41,007	62,139
Percentage to Grand Total	22.3	20.3	24.5	32.6	29.4

	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29
III. Unproductive but partly unnecessary					
Marriage and funeral ceremonies	15,924	19,763	15,342	12,910	24,255
Percentage to Grand Total	13.1	9.3	9.5	10.2	11.4
Grand Total	1,21,396	2,12,552	1,61,494	1,25,953	2,11,618

Mr. Calvert states in the course of his inspection note of 1929 that he made some enquiry in 18 societies with the following results:—

	No. of members	Culti- vated area (Bighas)	Value	Floating debt	Mortgage debt	Total	Society's debt
			(in Rupees)				
Average per member	643	8,143	2,83,000	1,41,000	80,000	2,21,000	1,62,000
	—	12.7	440	220	125	345	253

The comparison made by the Banking Enquiry Committee of figures collected in 1919 and 1929 showed that the total debt per member had increased from Rs. 378 to Rs. 524 in the Ajmer Circle, from Rs. 346 to 397 in the Beawar Circle, and from Rs. 339.9 to Rs. 364 in the Todgarh Circle. In 1919, the outside mortgage debt per member was Rs. 54.5 in the Ajmer Circle, Rs. 80 in the Beawar Circle and Rs. 135.2 in the Todgarh Circle but in 1928-29 the corresponding figures were Rs. 100.5, Rs. 117.4 and Rs. 171.2 respectively. The mortgage money per bigha had increased from Rs. 23.9 in 1919 to Rs. 33 in 1928-29 in the Ajmer Circle while in Beawar, it had increased from Rs. 35.6 per bigha to Rs. 51 per bigha, and in Todgarh, from Rs. 53.3 to Rs. 60 per bigha during the same period. In 1919 the outside floating debt per member was Rs. 176.8 in the Ajmer Circle, Rs. 104.6 in the Beawar Circle, and Rs. 92.8 in the Todgarh Circle but in 1929 this increased to Rs. 227, Rs. 129.1 and Rs. 104.6 in the respective circles. The co-operative societies' loans per member showed, during the same period, an increase from Rs. 146.7 per head to Rs. 196.4 in the Ajmer Circle, and a decrease from Rs. 161.2 to Rs.

150.7 in the Beawar Circle and from 111.9 in 1919 to Rs. 87.8 in the Todgarh Circle.

The inference, therefore, was irresistible that during this decade, the indebtedness of the members of the co-operative societies had really increased, unless the assumption was made that the co-operative movement had admitted more heavily indebted members into the movement during those years. This assumption was, however, contrary to the general tenor of every subsequent report on the working of these societies in Ajmer-Merwara. The situation was particularly disquieting in the Beawar and Todgarh Circles where the indebtedness to the societies was decreasing, while the outside indebtedness was increasing.

According to Census of 1941, the average size of a family in rural areas was 4.61 and according to the report on Economic Survey, 1941 the net annual income per family was Rs. 119. The average annual income was only Rs. 33.6 per adult male, whereas the average cost for food and clothing per adult, was Rs. 44.1 per year. Thus there was a recurring deficit in the family budget of an average cultivator forcing him to depend upon loans. Since his repayment capacity was insignificant, the debt accumulated.

In the economic survey the Random Sampling method was used and 15 villages with 1,701 rural families, were covered. The total amount of debt of the 1,701 families surveyed, was found to be Rs. 5,87,939 and thus indebtedness per family worked out to be Rs. 346, while debt per indebted family was calculated to be Rs. 487. Thus, by multiplying the extent of indebtedness per family with the rural population (Census 1941), the total rural indebtedness was then estimated to be Rs. 277 lakhs with a margin of error of about Rs. 50 lakhs.

EXTENT OF INDEBTEDNESS

Occupational

	A	B	C	D	E	F
Agriculture only	209	170	81.3	92,262	441.4	542.7
Agriculture Main	879	731	82.0	3,70,229	421.2	513.5
Agriculture Subsidiary	252	172	68.2	67,821	269.1	394.3
Non-agriculturist	361	145	40.2	57,626	159.6	397.4

- A : Number of families.
 B : Number of indebted families.
 C : Percentage of families in debt to total.
 D : Total debt.
 E : Debt per family.
 F : Debt per indebted family.

Three facts emerge from these figures:—

- (1) Preponderance of agriculturists in the population and the high incidence of indebtedness among them;
- (2) Comparatively lighter burden of debt on non-agriculturist; and
- (3) Less than one third (29 per cent) of the family being free from debt.

The following table indicates the percentage of debt in terms of total debt borrowed for productive and unproductive purposes by the various sections of rural population:

	Percentage of Productive debt	Percentage of non-Productive debt
Agriculture only	70.3	29.7
Agriculture Main	76	24
Agriculture Subsidiary	77.8	22.2
Non-Agriculture	82	18
All	75.8	24.2
Cultivating Owner	77.8	22.2
Tenant	76.7	23.3

The agriculturists borrowed more for unproductive purposes than the non-agriculturists. The following table gives percentage, in terms of total, of the loans taken for productive and unproductive purposes from the various sources of money lending.

	Productive	Non productive	Total
Mortgage	2.8	5.9	8.7
Co-operative	1.9	2.2	4.1
Bond	8.3	34.5	42.8
Others	11.2	33.2	44.4
Total	24.2	75.8	100

The above table shows that the debt from co-operative societies accounted to only 4.1 per cent of the total debt and the rest was borrowed from the money lenders.

The rate of interest per annum prevalent at that time, varies from nine to twelve per cent in the case of co-operative societies and 20 to 50 per cent in the case of loans on bond.

According to the inquiry of 1946-47, "the gross debt in Khalsa area was calculated to be Rs. 3,48,82,800. This, however, included amounts of big loans obtained by well-to-do persons, who lent out to others. The net debt thus arrived at in rupees was 26,189 thousands. Among the proprietors 41.6% were free from debt. Out of the indebted proprietors and tenants, 60.7% have debts below Rs. 500, while a vast majority of the landless families, i.e., 83.6%, have debts below the said amount. Only 12.9% of the proprietors, 12.4% of the tenants and 7.2% of landless families, owe debts of more than Rs. 1,000/-.

The total debts of these proprietors and tenants are Rs. 1,50,44,314 and Rs. 16,09,365 respectively and of landless families Rs. 6,27,610. The grand total comes to Rs. 1,72,81,289 which is 49.5% of the gross debt. Most of this small minority of heavily indebted persons, are groaning under old debts which have accumulated for many decades. Calculated on the basis of debt in khalsa areas, the gross debt per tenant family in *Istimrari* area was estimated at Rs. 493 and net debt at Rs. 370 and the gross and net debt of the whole State, including *Istimrari* areas, was estimated to be Rs. 5,37,14,907 and Rs. 4,03,13,120 respectively. According to 1941 Census there were 80,961 families in rural areas of this State. As such the average gross and net debt per family in the rural areas of the district comes roughly to Rs. 663½ and Rs. 497 respectively.

The present position of rural indebtedness is clearly visible from the results of the sample survey conducted in rural areas of the district, in 1961 by the Department of Economic and Industrial Surveys, Rajasthan. Out of the 550 households surveyed, 72.2% of the households (74.44 per cent of the population) are under debt. Out of 396 households, which are under debt, majority of households i.e. 86.1 per cent, have monthly income of less than Rs. 100/-, 12.38 per cent of the households have monthly income between Rs. 100-200 and 1.5 per cent of the households have monthly income of Rs. 200/- and above. Out of the total loan taken, 73.36 per cent has been taken by families which have monthly income of less than Rs. 100/-, 22.63 per cent by families which earn between Rs. 100 and 200 per month and 3.74 per cent, by families in the income group of Rs. 200/- and above.

The survey also shows that majority of the cultivators are in debt. Of the total loanee families, 83.08 per cent are those who are cultivating land and only 16.92 per cent families do not cultivate land. 72.92 per cent of the cultivator's families are loanees and 27.05 per cent are non-loanees. Of the total non-cultivating households, only 67.67 per cent are in debt and 32.33 per cent are free from debt. Of the total number of loanless households, who are cultivating land, 49.24 per cent cultivate land below five acres, 24.62 per cent between five to 10 acres, 12.16 per cent between 10 to 5 acres, 6.09 per cent between 15 to 20 acres, 3.64 per cent between 20 to 25 acres and 4.25 per cent cultivate an area of 25 acres or above. As much as 73.86 per cent of the indebted households are cultivating land below 10 acres and they account for 59.31 per cent of the total outstanding loan. The main features of the finding were that the extent of indebtedness, per family, was greater in the higher income group than in the lower income group as the latter are necessarily unable to offer adequate security and thus, although their needs are greater, the extent of their borrowings is curtailed. Another feature of the finding is that the average burden of debt and also the percentage of indebted families, is comparatively lower in the case of non-cultivators as compared to the farming classes:

Statement below gives in brief a summary of the findings, regarding
mentioned surveys conducted in Ajmer

Head	Mr. Darling's Method	Mr. Darling's method corrected by Registrar's figures of total average debt for members who can be considered as average families of the village	Mr. Calvert's estimate in 1918	Sampling method on the basis of intensive Survey in 20 villages
1	2	3	4	5
1. Total indebtedness of the whole rural population	Rs. 363 lakhs	Rs. 219 lakhs	Rs. 200 lakhs	Rs. 314 lakhs (gross debt) Rs. 258 lakhs (net debt)
2. Total indebtedness of proprietors and cultivators	—	—	—	Rs. 272 lakhs (gross debt)
3. Average indebtedness per family	—	—	—	Gross debt : Rs. 400.8 Net debt : Rs. 329.1 Gross debt (Agricultural family): Rs.398
4. Rates of Interest	—	—	—	—
5. Net debt per really indebted family	—	—	—	Rs. 796.8 for the Mahajans, Rs. 564.3 for proprietors & cultivators & Rs. 424.1 for landless labourers

the extent of Rural Indebtedness of Ajmer district from the above district areas from time to time.

On the basis of extensive surveys in 511 villages	Economic Survey by Random sampling of 15 villages embracing 1701 families in 1941	Detailed enquiry into the rural indebtedness of Khalsa Jagir and Istim-rari areas, made by Settlement Officer Shri Lal Sinha
6	7	8
Rs. 386 lakhs (gross)	Rs 277 lakhs (with a margin of error of 50 lakhs)	Gross debt : Rs. 5,37,14,907 Net debt : Rs. 4,03,13,120
Rs. 355 lakhs (gross debt)	—	—
Agriculturist family Rs. 579	Agriculturist only Rs. 441.4	Gross debt : Rs. 666.5 Net debt : Rs. 497
Six to eight per cent on loans given on mortgage of land and 12 to 18 per cent on unsecured loans	Nine to 12 per cent on loans given by Co-operative Societies, 20 to 50 per cent on mortgaged debts and 12 to 40 per cent on loans on bond	—
Rs. 487	—	—

Urban Indebtedness

No survey of urban indebtedness has ever been undertaken. The townsmen, living as they do, largely by the trade and industry, are for the most part, rather poor and in need of money to run their business. They also incur non-productive expenditure on weddings, festivals, etc. Their business needs are met to some extent by the commercial banks and government agencies but for incurring non-productive expenditure, they have to resort to borrowing from the money-lender.

Reasons for Borrowings

Some mention may be made of the reasons for which loans are sought. The sample survey on rural indebtedness conducted by the Economic and Industrial Survey Department in 1960-61, showed that as much as 74.76 per cent of borrowings in the rural areas are for un-productive purposes and only 25.24 per cent for productive purposes. Another reason for borrowing, due to less income and greater expenditure on food consumption itself, has already been explained under the heading rural indebtedness.

Present credit facilities

The agencies which supply credit in villages are money-lenders, co-operative societies, government and others which include relatives and friends etc. As already stated, the money-lenders dominate all other agencies in supplying credit and this is also proved by the following results derived by the sample survey conducted by the Economic and Industrial Surveys Department in 1960-61. According to it, "as much as 66.15 per cent of the households take loan from the money-lenders, 13.72 per cent of the households take loan from co-operatives, 6.64 per cent from Government and 13.49 per cent from other sources. As much as 57.55 per cent of the total amount borrowed, is supplied by money-lenders. Co-operatives supply 13.96 per cent of the total loan; government's contribution is 11.92 per cent and 16.57 per cent is supplied by other sources."¹

The sample survey also revealed that of the total loan supplied by government, 9.02 per cent has been recovered and of the loan supplied by co-operatives, 4.16 per cent has been repaid; 4.48 per cent repayment has been made in respect of loans supplied by money-lenders and 5.20 per cent in respect of loans supplied by other sources. This shows that although recovery percentage of government loans is higher than that of money-lenders, it is still not satisfactory being

1. A short Note on Rural Indebtedness in Ajmer District, Directorate of Economic and Industrial Surveys, Rajasthan.

as low as 9.02 per cent. In respect of co-operatives, recovery percentage is not at all satisfactory, it being even less than that of money-lenders.

A very significant result which emerges from the Sample Survey is that as much as 59.77 per cent of outstanding loan has been supplied at rates between 10 to 15 per cent, 14.69 per cent of the outstanding loan at rates between 5 to 10 per cent and 7.19 per cent of the outstanding loan at rates lower than five per cent. The popular belief that money-lender is a 'Shylock' seems to be a myth. Only 0.16 per cent of the total outstanding loan has been taken at rates higher than 25 per cent. In fact, this study has revealed that money-lenders in Ajmer District are supplying credit at fairly reasonable rates. Further, the fact that they are supplying as much as 27.12 per cent of the loan for productive purposes, indicates their very useful role in the economy of the region.

Co-operative movement

The co-operative credit movement in the district owes its inception to the passing of the first Co-operative Credit Societies Act in the year 1904 A.D. which was subsequently repealed by Act II of 1912. The movement had a humble start. Difficulties of finance and management made it impossible for experiments being made in the Khalsa villages, in the beginning. The Istimrari estates which were then under the Court of Wards management, were therefore, first selected in which to start the business.

The following statement gives the position of the co-operative movement in the district in selected periods since 1906-07 to 1961-62 (every year begins from 1st July and ends on 30th June):—

Year	No. of societies	Membership (Nos.)	Working Capital (In Rs.)
1906-07	8	238	406
1914-15	355	10,387	7,03,017
1917-18	366	12,660	26,04,332
1920-21	521	18,167	42,46,577
1929-30	638	20,085	45,38,303
1930-31	655	18,877	47,01,023
1930-40	740	23,653	62,55,070
1940-41	761	22,566	62,12,450
1950-51	954	23,50,402	69,61,736
1960-61	1,392	77,188	1,67,20,743
1961-62	1,602	84,171	1,74,10,207

At first, eight societies were organised but, for the want of a central agency to cater to their requirements, progress continued to be slow till 1910. From 1910-13, progress was fairly rapid. The number of societies rose from eight to 282 (including three central banks) with a membership of 8,611 and a working capital of over Rs. 10 lakhs. Though expansion was very satisfactory, yet it became clear that the edifice had not been built upon strong foundations, the task of organising and supervising the societies had to be entrusted to an unpaid agency which had little experience to guide and control the course of the movement.

In 1913, Government sanctioned the creation of the post of a whole time Registrar and one Inspector as a temporary measure. This naturally accelerated the pace of the movement and before the close of the year 1918, the number of societies rose to 362, besides four Central Institutions. Their working capital also rose from Rs. 10 lakhs to about Rs. 27 lakhs.

After the appointment of a trained official as a Registrar in 1918, there was satisfactory progress in all spheres of co-operative activity and by the close of 1931, the number of all kinds of societies had risen to 655 with a membership of 20,085 and a working capital of Rs. 45,38,303. The progress was slow during the decade 1930-40 because of the after-effects of economic depression, which brought ruin to the cultivators. But again the number of the societies by the end of 30th June, 1940, rose to 746 with a membership of 23,653 and a working capital of Rs. 62,55,070.

It is, however, a notable fact that during this period, in respect of working capital, Ajmer-Merwara stood second to none in the whole of British India and in respect of membership and number of societies, it held second position. There were on 30th June, 1940, 163 societies (including nine housing societies) consisting of 7,811 members and a working capital of 19,25,707.

In 1936, a training class was run at Ajmer for members of co-operative societies out of a grant of Rs. 11,160 given by the Central Government. The severe famine in the year 1939-40 affected growth of the co-operative movement and though upto 1940-41, the number of societies increased to some extent yet the membership was severely affected. The position of the movement on 30th June, 1951 is shown in the table below:

S. No.	Nature of the Society	No. of Societies	Membership (Nos.)	Working capital (in Rs.)
1.	Central Credit	7	1,747	28,55,959
2.	Central Non-Credit	12	560	3,51,920
3.	Agricultural	600	14,112	12,91,159
4.	Non-Agricultural	335	17,609	23,50,697
5.	Land Mortgage Banks	12	1,374	1,11,992
		966	35,402	69,61,757

Most of the physical targets of the Second Plan, as regards coverage of village and population, construction of godowns etc. have been achieved.

Under the scheme of reorganisation of Central Bank, five Unions have been merged within the existing Central Bank covering 100% of the Plan target and eight branches have been established at Pisangan, Kishangarh, Masuda, Bhinai, Kekri, Nasirabad, Bijainagar and Beawar.

The Plan target of re-organising the 12 land mortgage societies into three land mortgage banks has been fully achieved. These have been set-up at Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri.

The position of the co-operative movement in the district in the year 1961-62 was as follows:—

Nature of Society	Number	Membership
1. Central Co-operative Banks and Unions	2	1,856
2. Central non-credit Societies	16	1,724
3. Agricultural Credit Societies	691	43,783
4. Agricultural non-credit Societies	125	2,135
5. Primary Land Mortgage Banks	13	2,612
6. Non-Agricultural Credit Societies	100	8,404
7. Non-Agricultural non-credit Societies	477	19,641

The description that follows, will trace the growth of each aspect of the co-operative movement in the district.

Agricultural Credit

The growth of agricultural credit societies in the district from 1907-08 to 1928-29, is given below:

Year	Number	Membership	Working capital
1907-08	9	238	406
1912-13	279	8,115	5,03,204
1913-14	352	10,387	7,35,509
1914-15	355	10,387	7,03,017
1915-16	349	11,664	9,15,600
1916-17	372	12,848	11,65,181
1917-18	362	12,595	14,36,424
1918-19	371	10,779	17,13,995
1919-20	412	10,546	10,95,783
1920-21	460	10,455	20,49,103
1921-22	450	9,984	20,13,372
1922-23	441	9,637	18,62,170
1923-24	433	9,199	17,21,750
1924-25	437	9,259	16,19,656
1925-26	458	9,559	17,12,207
1926-27	456	9,589	16,86,196
1927-28	448	9,261	15,50,712
1928-29	468	9,768	15,85,051

Operation of the agricultural co-operative credit societies, including land mortgage banks for the year 1938-39 to 1954-55 is given below:

	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46
1. Class of Societies								
(a) Limited	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unlimited	518	531	538	540	542	542	543	547
(c) Grain Banks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total No. of Societies	518	531	538	540	542	542	543	547
Number of Members	11,612	12,102	12,202	12,216	12,231	12,174	12,205	12,138
2. Loans made during								
the year to—								
(a) Individuals	1,24,425	97,386	76,624	73,277	65,224	88,482	96,411	1,08,600
(b) Banks & Societies	16,627	11,674	17,921	N.A.	69,853	1,42,568	N.A.	1,74,988
4. Loans recovered during								
the year from—								
(a) Individuals	98,086	40,481	1,09,182	1,16,471	1,83,945	2,68,288	2,69,698	2,64,757
(b) Banks & Societies	20,759	17,485	9,635	N.A.	41,079	76,870	N.A.	1,21,883
5. Loans due at the end								
of the year from—								
(a) Individuals	13,27,150	13,84,512	13,45,129	N.A.	11,83,214	10,03,408	N.A.	6,73,964
(b) Of which over due	5,925	2,032	8,220	7,187	8,730	14,505	14,520	16,785
(c) Banks & Societies	29,054	23,294	31,327	N.A.	71,079	N.A.	N.A.	2,25,236

Contd.

	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43	1943-44	1944-45	1945-46
6. Sale of goods to members	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Purchase of members' products	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Share of capital paid up	2,26,567	2,29,983	2,31,967	2,30,881	2,30,956	2,30,974	2,31,287	2,30,887
9. Reserve funds	2,76,113	2,68,770	2,68,921	—	2,90,095	3,17,051	—	3,18,273
10. Other funds	2,74,535	2,79,413	2,79,674	N.A.	2,84,081	2,88,500	N.A.	3,07,991
11. Loans and deposits held at the end of the year from—								
(a) Members	20,962	20,616	21,400	N.A.	22,162	24,568	N.A.	31,613
(b) Non-members	9,833	11,025	11,344	N.A.	9,649	7,305	N.A.	3,669
(c) Societies	11,533	11,147	8,302	N.A.	7,791	8,231	N.A.	9,686
(d) Central Banks	6,25,356	6,77,181	6,48,476	N.A.	4,97,342	2,53,623	N.A.	1,84,069
12. Working capital	14,44,878	14,98,135	14,70,084	N.A.	13,42,076	12,30,252	N.A.	10,86,188
13. Cost of management	9,655	7,083	7,156	N.A.	8,142	8,911	N.A.	9,788
14. Profit/Loss	—25,114	—35,164	—13,507	—6,667	15,603	37,777	38,160	24,790

	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
1. Class of Societies									
(a) Limited	—	—	—	—	3	4	6	6	5
(b) Unlimited	546	546	542	548	545	547	552	550	594
(c) Grain Banks	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—
Total number of Societies	546	546	545	550	548	551	558	556	599
2. No. of Members	12,205	12,201	12,444	12,570	13,051	13,220	13,647	13,873	15,757
3. Loans made during the year to—									
(a) Individuals	1,48,062	1,72,007	2,34,701	2,47,155	3,91,133	2,43,989	2,47,777	3,31,771	4,71,294
(b) Banks and Societies	1,90,963	1,68,239	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Loans recovered during the year from—									
(a) Individuals	2,31,858	2,05,400	1,75,319	1,45,866	3,16,406	1,17,879	2,41,841	2,87,220	2,90,032
(b) Banks and Societies	1,30,252	1,31,006	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Contd.

	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
5. Loans due at the end of the year from—									
(a) Individuals	5,90,168	5,51,018	5,90,705	6,91,994	7,66,718	8,22,828	8,98,764	9,42,858	11,23,362
(b) Banks and Societies	2,85,932	3,23,144	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Of which over due	19,319	19,060	17,633	24,785	29,521	28,920	45,063	63,051	69,151
6. Value of goods received	—	—	17,911	42,358	1,00,196	3,02,105	89,211	26,589	28,323
7. Value of goods marketed	—	—	12,032	46,193	81,743	2,77,352	97,904	30,537	24,279
8. Share Capital paid up	2,31,716	2,30,297	2,29,987	2,31,091	2,35,388	2,38,205	2,45,708	2,52,575	2,82,190
9. Reserve funds	3,08,633	3,00,081	3,36,342	3,45,078	3,51,527	3,61,967	3,66,692	3,71,338	3,80,906
10. Other funds	3,20,749	3,33,848	2,92,886	2,97,295	3,14,634	3,04,511	3,25,649	3,42,204	3,61,182

Contd.

	1946-47	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55
11. Loans & deposits held at the end of the year from—									
(a) Members	33,568	38,018	40,675	38,582	36,675	41,298	45,449	50,057	51,773
(b) Non-Members	3,445	5,082	9,954	7,840	11,247	12,738	7,107	4,588	6,135
(c) Societies	12,066	11,236	11,774	15,989	17,727	21,971	19,861	20,106	22,296
(d) Central banks	1,55,143	1,53,663	1,78,113	2,32,645	2,93,948	3,86,841	3,75,258	3,87,687	5,02,879
12. Working capital	10,65,319	10,72,225	10,99,731	11,68,520	12,64,146	13,67,531	13,85,724	14,28,555	16,43,361
13. Cost of management	9,731	9,539	9,490	10,101	10,451	14,099	15,509	15,509	19,519
14. Profit/Loss	25,771	17,288	32,873	32,276	30,083	32,705	40,933	42,325	50,657
								(412)	(454)
								—6,197	—9,102
								(144)	(143)
15. Most usual rate of interest—									
(a) On borrowing	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%
(b) On lending	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%

Figures in bracket show the number of societies in profit or loss.

First established in 1904-05, the Agricultural Credit Societies showed noticeable progress only after 1910 and by 1915 their number had reached 355 with membership of 10,387 persons. The number of societies fell subsequently at first, due to the scarcity of 1918-19 and later, due to the depression of the thirties. The number of such societies rose to 684 and membership to 44,296 persons by the end of 1960-61 (30th June, 1961). The working capital of these societies has shown considerable variation over the years. It was Rs. 9,15,600 in 1914-15, Rs. 20,49,103 in 1920-21, Rs. 15,50,512 in 1927-28, Rs. 10,65,319 in 1946-47, Rs. 16,43,361 in 1954-55 and Rs. 49,85,296 in 1960-61 while the paid up share capital by the end of 1960-61 was Rs. 10,79,690. The deposits were of the value of Rs. 3,30,492 with the societies and reserves, Rs. 8,26,684. These societies during the year (1960-61), purchased goods worth Rs. 2,28,255 from the members in the district and sold to them goods worth Rs. 2,10,396 and advanced and recovered loans of Rs. 14,65,790 and Rs. 13,93,072 respectively. At the end of this year, an amount of Rs. 25,35,559 was outstanding as loans.

Agriculture (both credit and non-credit) —

The statement below, gives the figures of operations of the agricultural societies (both credit and non-credit) including mortgage banks for some selected years in the beginning and then continuously from 1938-39 to 1954-55 and for the year 1960-61 :

Head	Year				
	1907-08	1909-10	1914-15	1930-31	1941-42
1. Member of Societies	8	24	355	547	573
2. Number of members	238	524	11,264	12,144	12,776
3. Loans made during the year to:—					
(a) Individuals	296	83	4,55,937	1,79,673	73,669
(b) Banks & Societies	—	167	6,592	32,687	32,773
4. Receipts from loans & deposits repaid during the year by:—					
(a) Individuals	17	56	4,88,730	1,39,272	1,16,823
(b) Banks & Societies	—	—	1,597	35,583	20,307
5. Loans due by:—					
(a) Individuals	304	8,792	7,74,590	16,16,705	13,03,673
(b) Of which overdue	—	—	—	16,926	7,187
(c) Banks & Societies	—	167	5,979	21,138	42,720

Head	Year				
	1907-08	1909-10	1914-15	1930-31	1941-42
6. Loans and deposits received during the year from:—					
(a) Individuals	81	835	4,512	9,567	7,595
(b) Central Banks	—	—	4,65,189	1,46,094	48,001
(c) Primary Societies	—	202	—	7,415	2,819
7. Sale of goods to members	—	—	—	340	—
8. Purchase of members products	—	—	—	—	—
9. Share Capital paid up	—	1,729	1,68,809	2,65,967	2,31,058
10. Other funds	—	—	—	—	2,82,862
11. Reserve funds	—	—	—	5,36,393	2,73,871
12. Loans and deposits held at the end of the year from:—					
(a) Members	306	384	650	21,113	20,962
(b) Non-Members	100	900	2,542	14,742	10,841
(c) Societies	—	6,202	5,09,948	9,726	7,797
(d) Central Banks	—	—	—	8,71,894	6,09,871
(e) Government	—	—	21,066	—	—
13. Working Capital	406	9,214	7,03,016	17,19,835	14,37,262
14. Cost of Management	—	—	—	16,264	7,357
15. Profit and Loss	+11	+58	+23,059	+71,640	-6,580

Head	Year	
	1950-51	1954-55
1. Number of Societies	600	634
2. Number of members	14,112	16,311
3. Loan made during the year to individuals	3,93,931	4,71,294
4. Loans recovered during the year	3,17,968	2,90,237
5. Loans due at the end of the year	7,69,176	11,24,525
6. Of which overdue	29,521	69,151
7. Cash in hand and in banks	36,515	8,14

Head	Year	
	1950-51	1954-55
8. Investment in loans, land and buildings	19,847	—
9. Investment in plant and machinery	10,652	10,752
10. Deposits with banks	2,59,632	—
11. Other assets	1,95,337	12,475
12. Value of goods:		
(a) Received	1,00,196	28,323
(b) Marketed	81,743	24,279
13. Share capital paid up	2,46,022	2,89,877
14. Reserves and other funds	6,66,776	7,47,043
15. Loans held at the end of the year from:		
(a) Provincial and Central banks	3,04,614	5,12,734
(b) Government	—	—
(c) Others	3,989	10
16. Deposits held at the end of the year from:		
(a) Individuals	51,943	54,740
(b) Societies and others	17,815	28,431
17. Working Capital	12,91,159	16,68,835
18. Cost of management	10,487	44,993
19. Profit/Loss	22,665	49,045
20. Number of societies in loss	172	144

The strength of the agricultural societies and their membership, has been generally increasing steadily; though they received a set-back during the years 1938-39 and 1947-48 and 1952-53, which were years of stress and strain for the co-operative movement in the whole of Ajmer district. In the year 1907-08 the number of these societies and their membership was only eight and 238 respectively. It increased by leaps and bounds between 1910-11 to 1914-15 and, in the later year, the number of agricultural societies was 355 and their membership 11,264. In later years, especially upto 1951, the number of societies increased more rapidly than the membership. Thus, while the number of societies increased to 547, the membership was only 12,114 in 1930-31. Similarly, in 1940-41 the corresponding figures were 571 and 12,772 respectively. Again, while in 1950-51 the number of societies rose to

600, their membership was only 14,112 persons. In 1960-61, however, the number of societies increased upto 907 and the membership, to 55,722 persons.

The working capital in 1907-08 was Rs. 406 while in 1909-10 it was Rs. 9,214. In 1914-15 it increased to Rs. 7,03,016 and reached to 17,19,835 in 1930-31 while in 1938-39 it fell to Rs. 14,46,251. During the years 1941-42 to 1946-47, it further decreased as in the latter year it was Rs. 10,69,444. In 1947-48, it again started rising slowly and in 1950-51 it rose to Rs. 12,91,159. It increased during the First and Second Plan periods and by the end of 1960-61 (30th June, 1961), it was Rs. 69,12,375. It may be stressed that the amount of reserve and other funds, has not increased with the pace with which the working capital and membership of the societies have increased.

It was Rs. 5,36,393 at the end of 1931, Rs. 5,49,113 in 1940-41, Rs. 6,66,776 in 1951 and while membership, share capital, paid up and working capital increased rapidly between 1950-51 and 1960-61, the reserve and other funds increased only to Rs. 10,70,135. During this year (1960-61) goods worth Rs. 12,55,957 were purchased from members and goods worth Rs. 7,30,554, sold to them by the agricultural societies. A loan of Rs. 14,67,375 was advanced to the members during the year 1960-61 and an amount of Rs. 13,97,250 was recovered from them and at the end of the year, a sum of Rs. 25,38,416 was outstanding.

MORTGAGE BANKS—In order to provide long term loans to the agriculturists, three land mortgage banks and ten mortgage societies were established in Ajmer district, during the third decade of this century. These banks, in turn, were financed through loans from co-operative central banks. Eighty-nine loans amounting in the aggregate, to Rs. 19,827 were granted in 1928-29 for redemption of land and 25 loans amounting in the aggregate, to Rs. 5,558, were advanced for improvement of wells and nadis. The corresponding figures for 1930-31 were 46 loans amounting in the aggregate, to Rs. 12,102 for redemption of land and 19 loans totalling Rs. 2,550 for improvement of wells, nadis and tanks. Till 30th June, 1931, 2,194 bighas of land had been redeemed by the members of these co-operative mortgage banks and societies. These societies had a total membership of 841 persons by the end of 1930-31, while on 30th June, 1941, it rose to 1,229 with a working capital and paid up share capital of Rs. 91,606 and Rs. 6,809 respectively. Their number remained the same even upto the end of 1950-51, but membership slowly increased to 1,374 with a working

capital of Rs. 1,11,992. During the First and the Second Plan periods, it was envisaged to liquidate most of the mortgage societies and to have only three such institutions in the district. This has been achieved though skeletons of these societies still exist. At present only three societies are working effectively though others retain a skeleton staff. By the end of 1960-61, the membership of such societies was 2,500 persons with a working capital of Rs. 3,00,860.

Non-Agricultural Societies

The first non-agricultural credit society was established in this district with a membership of 14 persons and a working capital of Rs. 353, in 1918-19. The number of such societies had risen to 66, membership to 2,139 individuals and working capital to Rs. 3,90,828 in 1928-29. Beside this, five thrift and saving societies with membership of 132 individuals, were started for the first time in Ajmer in the year 1924-25, with a working capital of Rs. 1,398. The number of such societies rose to 14 with membership of 359 persons and a working capital of Rs. 50,259 in 1928-29. The number of non-agriculture credit societies, purchase and sale and miscellaneous societies, such as thrift, housing and better living societies etc., was 96 at the end of 1930-31 with a membership of 5,971 persons, a total working capital of Rs. 8,48,732, deposits of Rs. 2,73,354, reserves of Rs. 93,167 and paid up share capital of Rs. 1,87,492. The societies had lent Rs. 3,92,548 to individuals and Rs. 1,22,427 to banks and societies. A sum of Rs. 6,52,356 was outstanding against individuals of which Rs. 44,464 was over due (the term "Loans overdue" meant loans due for payment, which had not been paid and for which extension had not been granted by competent authority). Beside this, in that year (1930-31) goods worth Rs. 3,49,150 were sold to members and goods of the value of Rs. 3,07,308 were purchased by the societies from members. The expenses for management came to Rs. 15,512 for the same year and it earned a profit of Rs. 25,980. The usual rate of interest on borrowings by these societies was between four to nine per cent per annum and on lendings, nine to 12½ per cent.

Though the period between 1936-37 to 1939-40 was of great stress and strain for Ajmer-Merwara, even then, during these ten years (i.e. after 1930-31), the number of societies of this type, rose to 165 and their total membership to 7,889, the working capital to Rs. 18,56,936, the reserves to Rs. 2,20,138 and paid up share capital to Rs. 3,28,425. The cost of management was Rs. 12,857. The deposits amounted to Rs. 14,90,918. An amount of Rs. 9,70,841 was given as loan during the year (1940-41) by these societies to individuals and Rs. 16,43,005 to

banks. A sum of Rs. 12,52,798 was outstanding from individuals of which Rs. 59,554 was overdue. Goods worth Rs. 2,09,236 were sold to members and goods of the value of Rs. 1,87,918 were purchased from members and the total profit amounted to Rs. 31,304. The most usual rate of interest during the year (1940-41) on borrowings, was between 4½ to eight per cent per annum and on lendings between six to 12 per cent.

By the end of the year 1950-51, the number of such societies rose to 335 (non-agricultural credit—104 and non-agricultural non-credit—231) and their membership to 17,609 persons. Their total working capital was Rs. 23,50,697, reserves Rs. 4,71,421 and paid up share capital Rs. 5,40,581 (Rs. 2,51,029 for credit and Rs. 2,89,552 for non-credit societies) and the amount of total deposits with these societies was Rs. 15,69,904 (for credit societies Rs. 12,92,333 and for non-credit societies Rs. 2,77,571). They had advanced loan to the extent of Rs. 14,07,726 to the members during this year (1950-51).

Though the strength of societies went up by the end of 1960-61 to 438 (Credit—93 and Non-credit—345), the membership fell down to 14,398.

At the end of 1960-61 (30th June, 1961), the working capital of these societies was Rs. 38,18,800 (of credit societies Rs. 19,04,668 and of non-credit societies Rs. 19,14,132), paid up share capital with credit societies was Rs. 2,80,914 and with non-credit societies Rs. 2,29,438. Reserves stood at Rs. 3,61,031 (with credit societies Rs. 3,19,644 and with non-credit societies Rs. 41,387). During this year (1960-61), goods worth Rs. 8,71,784 were sold to the members and goods worth Rs. 8,48,715 were purchased from the members. However, no loans were advanced to the members. The figures showing operations of the non-agricultural societies of Ajmer district for the selected years, since 1930-31 to 1960-61 are given below:

Year	No. of Societies	No. of Members	Share capital paid up to the end of year	Deposits	Loans from other Societies & banks etc.	Reserve	Total working capital
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1930-31	96	5,971	1,87,492	2,73,354	1,92,936	93,167	8,48,732
1940-41	165	7,889	3,28,425	14,90,918	4,36,773	2,20,128	18,56,936
1950-51	335	17,609	5,40,581	15,69,904	4,41,191	4,71,421	23,50,697
1960-61	438	14,398	5,10,352	10,82,792	13,13,510	3,61,031	38,18,800

Year	Loans issued to members	Profit	Cost of management	Sale of goods to members	Purchase of goods of members	Loans outstanding	Loan overdue
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1930-31	3,92,546	25,980	—	3,49,150	3,07,308	6,52,356	4,446
1940-41	9,70,841	31,304	12,857	2,09,236	1,87,918	12,52,798	59,544
1950-51	14,07,726	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1960-61	—	N.A.	N.A.	8,71,784	8,48,715	6,204	N.A.

CENTRAL-CREDIT**The Ajmer Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Ajmer**

The Ajmer Central Co-operative Bank Limited, known before integration as the Ajmer-Merwara Provincial Co-operative Bank, was registered in February, 1910. It functioned as a central co-operative bank for the societies of Ajmer division; for the areas having financing agencies like the banking unions located in Beawar, Kekri and Nasirabad, it acted as an apex bank. It had no branches at such places. In the year 1959, all the banking unions in the district were merged in this bank, and some new branches were opened at other places increasing the number to eight. They were at Beawar, Kekri, Nasirabad, Masuda, Bhinai, Pisangan, Kishangarh and Bijainagar. The following table gives the figures of the operations of the Ajmer Central Co-operative Bank for some years.

Heads	1909-10	1914-15	1930-31	1940-41	1950-51	1960-61
1. Membership (Nos.)						
(a) Individuals	37	389	484	456	442	682
(b) Societies	1	185	297	310	367	1,125
2. Working Capital	66,767	5,41,730	12,12,729	16,11,497-	19,39,240	50,15,542
3. Paid up Share Capital	3,175	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000	1,00,000	6,27,400
4. Loans given during the year to—						
(a) Individuals	—	41,975	62,421	45,793	—	—
(b) Banks and Societies	6,202	2,91,469	7,22,487	94,917	—	—

The below Statement gives business position of the Bank for the last seven years (i.e. from 1954-55 to 1960-61)

Head	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
1. Paid up Share Capital	1,19,875	1,23,175	1,39,150	2,13,475	4,32,525	5,65,100	6,27,400
2. All Reserves	4,84,419	4,92,154	5,10,282	5,38,830	7,97,086	8,64,886	8,69,277
3. Deposits	13,41,319	15,40,035	16,04,920	17,59,752	22,76,341	27,17,753	32,52,418
4. Profit	15,402	21,033	31,860	25,185	73,096	46,867	51,950
5. Working Capital	2,20,07,086	26,09,235	24,51,914	29,00,736	39,74,518	49,70,05,567	50,15,542

The progress of the bank since its inception, has been encouraging. The bank started with an authorised capital of Rs. 1,00,000, distributed in 4,000 shares, each of the value of Rs. 25/-. By 1914-15, all the shares were purchased by the affiliated societies and members. Its membership had risen from 27 in 1909-10 to 682, in 1961 in the case of individuals and from one to 425 in the case of societies. Keeping in view the heavy demand for the shares of the bank, the authorised capital has been recently raised to Rs. 10,00,000.

There are 3,000A type shares of Rs. 100 each and 28,000B type shares of Rs. 25 each. The former category of shares can only be purchased by the government, while the latter can be purchased by individuals and societies. The present distribution of these shares is as below:

S. No.	Nature of the membership	Membership	No. of shares sold	(1960-61)
				Total paid up share capital
1.	Government	1	50	50,000
2.	Co-operative Societies	1,125	17,922	4,48,050
3.	Individuals	682	5,174	1,29,350
GRAND TOTAL		1,907	23,095	6,27,400

The working capital of the bank was Rs. 4,767 in 1909-10 which shot up to Rs. 5,41,730 in 1914-15, Rs. 18,39,240 in 1950-51 and Rs. 50,15,542 in 1960-61. Similarly, its Reserves and Deposits have also increased considerably with the passage of time.

Branches of Ajmer Central Co-operative Bank

Most of these branches worked as separate entities as Banking Unions, membership being open to the local societies and individuals and depended for their financial needs upon the Ajmer Central Co-operative Bank, which, during Ajmer state times, worked as an Apex Bank. The first such Banking Union was started in Beawar on 27th January, 1913. Later on, such Unions were started at Nasirabad on 8th June, 1913, at Bhinai on 29th June, 1925, at Masuda on 17th March, 1927, at Todgarh on 14th January, 1928 and at Kekri on 14th May, 1930. During the second decade of this century, a Banking

Union was also started in Pisangan but it ceased to exist before long. The Banking Union at Beawar worked as a Bank for Merwara district.

The Banking Union at Nasirabad was also, for some time, considered as Bank. Its working capital in 1914-15 was Rs. 48,710 which rose to Rs. 1,17,836 in 1930-31 and to Rs. 1,21,651 in 1940-41, while its paid up share capital was Rs. 6,525 in 1914-15, Rs. 2,500 in 1930-31 and Rs. 3,675 in 1940-41. It advanced a sum of Rs. 80,082 as loans to societies in 1914-15 and Rs. 50,187 to both individuals and societies in 1930-31 and Rs. 9,129 to societies in 1940-41.

The working capital of Bhinai Banking Union in 1930-31 was Rs. 39,366 and it rose to Rs. 47,813 in 1940-41. Its paid up share capital in 1930-31 was Rs. 3,400 and in 1940-41 Rs. 3,700. The amount of loans advance by the union to individuals and societies was Rs. 757 and Rs. 24,872 respectively and in 1940-41 it advanced a loan of Rs. 9,704 to societies.

The working capital of the Masuda Banking Union in 1930-31, was Rs. 53,941 and Rs. 47,818 in 1940-41. The paid up share capital in 1930-31 was Rs. 4,950 and Rs. 6,850 in 1940-41. The union advanced a sum of Rs. 23,437 as loans to societies in 1930-31 and Rs. 17,761 in 1940-41.

The working capital of the Todgarh Banking union was Rs. 37,466 in 1930-31 and Rs. 80,904 in 1940-41. Its paid up share capital in the corresponding years was Rs. 2,625 and Rs. 4,825 respectively. The working capital of the Kekri Banking Union was Rs. 7,132 in 1914-15 which increased to Rs. 15,804 in 1930-31 and to Rs. 75,465 in 1940-41. The paid up share capital for the corresponding years was Rs. 1,125, Rs. 700 and Rs. 3,575 respectively. The Union advanced loans of a sum of Rs. 10,164 to societies in 1914-15, Rs. 25,614 in 1930-31 and Rs. 22,652 in 1940-41.

In spite of the long period of their existence, these Unions failed to grow up. In 1951, the average paid up share capital of the Unions barely amounted to Rs. 32,000. Their deposit liabilities averaged Rs. 52,000 while borrowing from the Ajmer Central Co-operative Bank averaged about Rs. 27,000. To strengthen their financial position, all the Unions except that of Todgarh, were converted into branches of the District Central Co-operative Bank, during the Third Plan period. Three more branches were later established, one each at Pisangan, Khandgarh and Bijainagar. The Beawar Banking Union, which for

some time, also functioned as Central Bank, has also been converted into a branch of the Ajmer Central Co-operative Bank since 1960.

A Central Co-operative Society was established at Beawar in the year 1913, which afterwards performed the functions of a Central Co-operative Bank for the former district of Merwara. Membership was open both to the societies and individuals. It provided loans to the members through the societies. The working capital of the bank in 1914-15 was Rs. 2,02,893, in 1927-28, Rs. 6,28,267, in 1930-31, Rs. 6,12,505 and in 1940-41, Rs. 8,67,976. The paid up share capital of the bank was 23,125 in 1914-15 and Rs. 70,000 in 1930-31. An amount of Rs. 68,493 and Rs. 8,217 was advanced as a loan in the year 1914-15 to the societies and individuals, and Rs. 73,761 and Rs. 3,872 to societies only in the year 1930-31 and 1940-41 respectively. In the year 1914-15, 64 individuals and 122 societies were affiliated to this bank which rose to 237 and 248 respectively in 1930-31. This bank has also been converted into a branch of the Ajmer Central Co-operative Bank.

Central non-Credit Societies

There were five such societies, namely; the Bhinai Co-operative Supply Union Limited, the Beawar Co-operative Sale and Supply Union Limited and the Circle Co-operative Union for execution of Awards Limited at Ajmer, Nasirabad and Beawar. The total number of members was 410. Paid up share capital amounted to Rs. 7,520, working capital to Rs. 43,145 and reserves to Rs. 3,179 at the end of 1930-31. During the year, goods worth Rs. 6,536 were sold to members and goods of the value of Rs. 9,098 were purchased by societies from the members.

Although a supply union functioning at Bhinai was liquidated, one was established at Nasirabad. Thus the number of these societies remained the same during the period 1930-31 and 1940-41. In 1940-41 their membership stood at 432, working capital at Rs. 14,066, other funds at Rs. 118 and Reserve fund at Rs. 2,087. Goods of the value of Rs. 5,890 and Rs. 5,530 were sold to and purchased from the members separately by these types of societies. During the year 1940-41, these societies advanced loans to the tune of Rs. 6,309 to societies and Rs. 79 to individuals.

The number of such societies had increased to 12 and membership to 560 persons by the end of 1950-51 while the working capital had increased to Rs. 3,51,929. By the end of 1950-51, the deposits amounted to Rs. 2,33,099 and the reserves to Rs. 39,224. However, by

the end of 1960-61, the reserves had fallen to Rs. 11,813 and deposits were almost nil.

Present Departmental Organisations

It was in 1957 that the co-operative department was established in the district. The old Act was repealed and the Rajasthan Co-operative Societies Act, 1953 was made applicable. The district was divided into two zones, namely; Ajmer North and Ajmer South. The former covered four Panchayat samitis, namely; Arain, Pisangan, Kishangarh and Srinagar and the urban areas of Ajmer city, Pushkar, Kishangarh and Nasirabad.

The south zone covered four Panchayat samitis, namely; Masuda, Bhinai, Jawaja and Kekri, and the urban areas of Beawar and Kekri. Each zone is under one Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies. They are assisted by a staff of 26 Inspectors (executive) and 28 Inspectors (audit). The Inspectors (executive) work with the Panchayat Samitis on deputation, while the Inspectors (audit) are directly under the supervision of the Assistant Registrar. There is one Technical Assistant and one Audit Assistant in each of the two zones.

After establishment of the present set-up the movement had made rapid progress in the district. At the end of 1960-61 the number of Co-operative Societies had risen to 1,542 with a total membership of 78,898.

The details are as follows:—

	(As on 31st March 1961)	
	No.	Membership
1. Credit		
(i) Central Bank	1	1,831
(ii) Central Co-operative Union	1	31
(iii) Agricultural Credit Societies including multipurpose	665	34,646
(iv) Non-Agricultural Credit Societies	94	7,560
(v) Primary land mortgage banks	13	2,474
(vi) Large sized institutions	19	7,798
(vii) Central land mortgage banks	1	8
2. Non-Credit		
(i) Central Non-Credit Institutions:	1	10
(a) Federations	1	10
(b) Marketing unions and Commission shops	12	593

	No.	Membership
(c) Co-operative institute	1	357
(d) Supervising unions	6	311
(e) Others	22	680

(ii) Primary Agricultural Non-Credit:

(a) Purchase and Sales:

(i) Ghee and Milk	3	36
(ii) Fodder	7	120
(iii) Others	12	181
(b) Co-operative farming	51	751
(c) Land colonisation	—	—
(d) Social Services	29	698
(e) Primary Marketing Societies (under development scheme)	6	1,265

(iii) Primary Non-Agricultural (Non-Credit):

(a) Weavers	102	1,942
(b) Khadi utpadak	6	138
(c) Calico Printing	4	59
(d) Hand made paper	—	—
(e) Tel Ghani	18	316
(f) Palm gur	1	50
(g) Gur and khandsari	2	30
(h) Leather workers	85	1,354
(i) Blacksmith and Carpenters	10	145
(j) Village Pottery	3	34
(k) Non-edible soaps and oils	4	46
(l) Labour contract	—	—
(m) Forest Labourers	—	—
(n) Others	127	3,572
(o) Consumers Stores	38	6,992
(p) Housing	23	960
(q) Transport	2	207

TOTAL ITEM NO. 2

575 20,847

GRAND TOTAL

1,369 75,295

These figures do not include 172 societies with a total membership of 3,603 which were under liquidation proceedings.

SCHEDULED BANKS

Eight banks (excluding the branches of Ajmer Co-operative Bank) have a total of 15 branches in the district. A short description of each is given below:—

STATE BANK OF INDIA—The first branch of the State Bank of India was established in the district at Ajmer in the year 1923, and the second at Beawar.

THE BANK OF RAJASTHAN LIMITED—The Bank of Rajasthan has five branches in the district, located at Kekri, Kishangarh, Beawar, Bijainagar and Ajmer which were established in the years; 1948, 1952, 1953 and 1960 respectively.

THE STATE BANK OF JAIPUR—This Bank has only two branches. One of them is located at Kishangarh, which was established in the year 1943. In 1959-60, business totalled to Rs. 11 lakhs and in 1960-61 to Rs. 13.5 lakhs. The other branch is located at Beawar which was established on 28th September, 1946.

THE PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK LTD.—It has two branches located at Ajmer and Beawar. The Ajmer branch was established in the year 1944. Its deposits in the year 1959-60 and 1960-61 stood at Rs. 30,13,000 and Rs. 32,54,000 and advances at Rs. 11,97,000 and 12,40,000 respectively. The branch at Beawar was established in the year 1946.

THE BANK OF BARODA—Formerly a branch of the Hind Bank Ltd., was opened at Ajmer on 25th February, 1945. With the merger of the Hind Bank Ltd., on 1st August, 1958 with the Bank of Baroda Ltd., it is functioning as a branch of the Bank of Baroda Ltd.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA LTD.—The bank has one branch located at Ajmer. It was established on July 2, 1946. The Bank has its head office at Bombay.

THE NASIRABAD URBAN CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.—The Bank has established in Nasirabad in the year 1931. The membership on 30-6-62 was 627. At the end of the Co-operative year 1961-62 which closes on June 30, it had a share capital of Rs. 40,000/- divided into 4,000 shares of Rs. 10/- each, paid up share capital of Rs. 18,500/-, reserve fund Rs. 22,543, bad debt fund, Rs. 13,300 and building fund, Rs. 9,400/-.

THE URBAN CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD., AJMER—The Bank was established in the year 1923. At the end of the year 1960-61, the working capital of the bank was Rs. 5,86,063, deposits and reserves of Rs. 4,27,377 and Rs. 57,022 respectively and paid up share capital was Rs. 45,350.

THE UNITED COMMERCIAL BANK LTD.—The only branch of this bank is at Ajmer. It was established in 1945.

INSURANCE

Ajmer had been, prior to nationalisation of life insurance, the seat of the branch offices of all the private insurance companies operating in Rajasthan. Most of the companies were dealing with life and general insurance both. The premier concern in the field was the Oriental Life Insurance Company but the General Assurance Society Ltd. which was conducting both life as well as general business prior to nationalisation, had also its head office at Ajmer.

After nationalisation, the Life Insurance Corporation of India established its divisional office for the territory of Rajasthan at Ajmer on account of its central situation and also on account of the ready availability of the premises of the General Assurance Society Ltd. The Corporation has, apart from its divisional office, got a branch office at Ajmer and a development centre at Beawar. The territory of Ajmer Division of the Life Insurance Corporation falls under the Northern Zone of the Life Insurance Corporation of India. The Divisional Office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, Ajmer had secured business of over Rs. six crores in 1957, over Rs. nine crores in 1958, over Rs. 12½ crores in 1959 and over Rs. 18½ crores in 1960.

There are over 470 active agents operating in the territory of Ajmer district with 26 field officers and 28 other staff members. The divisional office, however, has got its own staff. It is headed by the Senior Divisional Manager, with five Assistant Divisional Managers, three assistant senior officers and several other junior officers alongwith ministerial and class IV staff, numbering over 300.

State Insurance

The scheme of Compulsory State Insurance was introduced in the district on 1st January, 1957 vide Finance Department, Government of Rajasthan, Notification No. F.7(13)FR/56(1) dated 6th July, 1956. At the end of the year 1960-61, the total number of employees registered under this scheme, was 10,400. The following statement given in detail, the business done by the State Insurance Department during the last four years:

Year	Gross Receipts	Premium received	Suspenses amount received	Policy loan recovered	Policy loan interest charged	Misc. receipts	Unpaid premium
1957-58	2,69,322.48	2,50,024.87	18,591.06	647.00	22.30	11.25	26.00
1958-59	2,93,084.06	2,93,084.00	7,623.00	2,753.50	55.12	55.44	396.00
1959-60	2,53,362.00	3,58,362.00	2,997.00	6,038.00	424.57	133.75	265.00
1960-61	5,39,412.36	5,39,412.36	6,374.51	7,055.00	415.54	82.89	44.00

(The above statement includes the figures of forest employees also).

General Insurance Companies

A short account of insurance companies having branches at Ajmer, which do the business of insurance of cars, trucks, buses, motor cycles and tractors etc. is given below:—

UNIVERSAL FIRE AND GENERAL INSURANCE CO., LTD.—This branch was established in the year 1959 and its head office is located at Bombay. In 1959-60 and 1960-61 it insured the following number of vehicles in the area covered by this branch:

Year	Cars	Trucks	Buses	Motor Cycles	Tractors
1959-60	45	11	10	5	—
1960-61	83	10	4	3	4

THE HYDERABAD UNITED INSURANCE CO., LTD.—The Ajmer branch of this company was established in the year 1956. It does business of insurance against various types of risks, e.g., accidents, fire, burglary etc. It has its head office at Hyderabad.

THE BALOISE MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY LTD.—The branch of this company was established in the year 1956. Its head office is located in Switzerland and it insured the following types of vehicles during 1957 to 1960 in the area covered by Ajmer branch:

Year	Trucks	Cars	Buses	Rikshaw	Motor Cycle	Tractors
1957	5	42	10	—	2	2
1958	4	33	17	—	2	3
1959	10	31	12	6	3	7
1960	28	46	6	3	7	3

National Savings

The office of the National Savings Organisation was established in Ajmer in the year 1948. Prior to the merger of Ajmer with the State of Rajasthan, this office was under the control of the Regional National Savings Officer, Delhi but since 1956, it is under the control of the Regional National Savings Officer, Rajasthan, with his office located at Jaipur.

Three District Organisers are working in the district supervised by the Assistant National Savings Officer whose office is located at Ajmer.

The securities under small savings are:—(1) 12 year National Plan Savings Certificates, (2) Post Office Savings Bank Account (3) 10 year Treasury Savings Deposit Certificate, (4) 15 year Annuity Certificate and (5) Cumulative Time Deposit Account. The sales under these securities during the last five years, are given below:

(In Rupees)

Year	Deposits	Withdrawals	Net
1956-57	1,26,49,468	88,79,914	37,69,554
1957-58	1,13,42,658	90,31,735	23,10,923
1958-59	1,26,08,749	1,12,52,327	13,56,422
1959-60	1,39,92,834	1,37,42,872	2,49,462
1960-61	1,53,20,796	1,44,17,741	9,03,055

Kishangarh Coins

Mr. William Webb has described the Kishangarh currencies in his book entitled "The Currencies of the Hindu States of Rajputana" in the following words:

"THE MINT—The mint is said, by the officials, to have been established when the State was founded, but this is most unlikely. The coin with the inscription to Shah 'Alam was probably the first to be made. The money is current throughout Kishangarh, and in the early part of this century was largely used in the Ajmer district.

"GOLD COINAGE—The gold muhr weight 11 mashas $2\frac{1}{4}$ rattis. The gold is said to be quite pure. The coin is half a ratti heavier than the Jaipur muhr. (The Kishangarh masha is only six rattis). The muhrs of the State are not coined in any great number I believe, and are very rarely met with.

"The coins bear the same inscription as the rupee of the same date.

"SILVER COINAGE—The rupee is the only silver coin made. Its weight is said to be 11 mashas $2\frac{1}{4}$ rattis, of which two mashas are alloy.

"1. Coin struck in the name of Shah 'Alam.

"INSCRIPTION.

"Obverse.

Sikka mubarak badshah ghazi Shah 'Alam.

'Auspicious coin of the victorious Emperor Shah 'Alam.'

Symbol. A 'jhar' having four leaves on the one side and four balls on the other.

"Reverse.

(In Urdu)

Zarab sanah.....julus maimanat manus.

'Struck in the.....year of his fortunate reign.'

"2. The Chandori rupee. This was struck out of respect to Chand Kanwar Bai, sister of Maharana Bhim Singh of Mewar, in the early part of this century. The coin was introduced for charitable purposes. It is of exactly the same pattern as the Mewar Chandori rupee of the second issue, except that the dies are more roughly cut, and consequently the lines on the coins appear broader.

"Weight. 166 grains.

"Value. Twelve annas and six pies Udaipuri, or rather less than the value of the Udaipur rupee (three pies and some pice less).

"3. The present coin, which bears in Persian character the following inscription:—

"Obverse. 'In the fortunate year (1858) of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria of England.'

"Reverse. 'Coined in the 24th year of the August accession of His Highness Raja Pirthi Singh Bahadur.'

"Weight. 11 mashas $2\frac{1}{4}$ rattis.

"Assay. Two mashas of alloy in each coin."

An account of the currency prevalent in Ajmer-Merwara before its administration came under British, is given in the Rajputana District Gazetteer of 1904 Volume A by C. C. Watson, I.C.S. who says,

"The question of the currency caused considerable difficulty to the first British Superintendent of Ajmer. None of the East India Company's coins were current further south than Jaipur, but there were six Principal mints, of which coin was current in Ajmer. The

Ajmer mint had been established since the time of the Emperor Akbar, and turned out yearly about a lakh and a half of rupees called Srishahi. The Kishangarh rupee was struck at Kishangarh, and the mint has been established for about 50 years, although frequently suppressed by the rulers of Ajmer. The Kuchawan rupee was struck by the Thakur of Kuchawan in Marwar without the permission of the Maharaja, who was too weak to assert his rights. The Shahpura mint had been established for some 60 years, inspite of the attempts of the Rana of Udaipur to suppress it. The Chitori and Udaipuri rupees were the standard coins of Mewar, and the Jharshahi rupee was struck at Jaipur. Mr. Wilder cut the knot of the coinage difficulty by concluding all transactions on the part of the Government in Farukhabad rupees, and receiving only these in payment of Government revenue. The fixed revenue of the istimrari estates, he converted from Srishahi into Farukhabad currency, and it is on this account that the istimarari revenue payable by each Thakur consists of rupees, annas and pies."

Trade and Commerce

Mr. C. C. Watson, in the Rajputana District Gazetteers (Ajmer-Merwara) of 1904, states, "In ancient times Ajmer was an entrepot for the trade between Bombay and upper India. As early as A.D. 1614 an agency was established there for the East India Company by Mr. Edwards of the Surat factory, and for many years the city was the principal mart for the exchange of European goods and the products of Rajputana and northern India. But the dimensions of the trade are not known. It appears to have been at all times hampered by vexatious customs and duties, and many of these were continued until after the British occupation of the district."

Whereas the transit trade of the district was formerly entirely carried by camels and *banjara* bullocks, it is now mostly railborne or done by motor trucks. There is, however, still a certain amount of conveyance by bullock carts in the interior of the district. With the establishment of the Railway, the trade in the district increased and now the passing of 8th National Highway through Kishangarh, Ajmer and Beawar towns of the district, has further given a fill up to the trade. In the past, there was conveyance by camels and bullocks into Marwar on the north, and to the south down the main road to Deoli and the formerly native states beyond Deoli. Similarly, the Merwara district was fed chiefly from Beawar, the grain being carried up the tract by road in carts. By the same agency the cotton from Mewar and the south, arrives in the market at Beawar. This is clearly shown from the export and import figures. In 1891 only 1,075 ton of raw cotton

was imported by rail to Beawar, while 8,471 tons was exported. The difference between these figures must have come into the market by road. At the turn of this century Ajmer, Beawar, Kishangarh—then in Kishangarh State, and to a lesser degree, Nasirabad were the four chief centres of trade, in the district. Kekri, which in the early days of British rule, bade fair to rival Ajmer as a trading mart, suffered a set back at the turn of this century but owing to a state high way running through the town, the trade has now revived.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS—The district is deficit in foodgrains since ancient times. It has been visited by droughts and famines in the past. Thus it has to depend mainly upon imports of foodgrains. The chief imports of the district in the past were, grains, pulses, sugar, salt, metals and piece goods.

The statement below gives the principal commodities in tons, imported and exported from Ajmer and Beawar stations through Railways only—

The present annual figures of the exports and imports through Railways are as follows:

Beawar Railway Station

Commodity	Quantity (in number of Wagons)	
OUTWARD FIGURES		
1. Grain and pulses	..	679
2. Oilseeds	..	69
3. Cotton (raw)	..	141
4. Mica, Felspar and Quartz	..	246
INWARD FIGURES		
1. Grain and pulses	..	240
2. Sugar and Jagri	..	208
3. Salt	..	105
4. Cotton	..	124

Ajmer Railway Station

OUTWARD FIGURES		
1. Grain and pulses	..	1,910
2. Oilseeds	..	22
3. Cotton (raw)	..	39
INWARD FIGURES		
1. Grain and pulses	..	1,199
2. Sugar and Jagri	..	576
3. Salt	..	129

The exports and imports by road, are also substantial and their magnitude has considerably increased during the last decade. However, no definite statistics are available about the road haulage of goods. Now-a-days there is a keen competition between railways and transport companies in carrying goods in and out of the district.

The most valuable export of the district since long, is raw cotton, and of this trade Beawar has been nearly the exclusive entrepot. Besides the local product, much of the cotton from Mewar and other southern Rajputana states, was brought to Beawar in the past. At pre-

sent raw cotton from Ganganagar, Jhalawar and places within the district is brought to Beawar where a part of it is utilised in the textile mills and the rest exported. The export of raw cotton rose from 3,561 tons in the year 1881 to 8,471 tons in 1891. In 1900, difficulties connected with the Mewar border threatened the trade with extinction and only 592 tons were exported, as against 8,424 tons in the preceding year. They were however, surmounted by the year 1902.

In 1930, 739 tons of cotton was imported in Beawar and the export was 1,242 tons from Beawar and 2,100 tons from Nasirabad. In 1940, import was 2,484 tons, while export was only 39 tons from Beawar and 157 tons from Nasirabad. This shows that the local consumption had increased considerably, obviously, owing to country-wide cloth shortage due to war. The figures of imports for 1949 are 1,169 and of export 476 tons from Beawar and 685 from Nasirabad. The fall was mainly due to general restrictions, in other states. Control was introduced on cotton in September 1949, and the dealers had to obtain a licence under the Cotton Control Orders 1949. The total figures of railborne import to Beawar in 1881, 1891 and 1902 were 16,015, 31,011 and 25,032 tons respectively. The total export figures for the same years were 11,930, 15,350 and 8,711 tons respectively. All these figures refer to railborne trade only and that too, only from these two cities. It would not, therefore, give a correct assessment of the extent of imports and exports of the whole district (previously Ajmer-Merwara province).

In 1881 the total imports were 7,138 tons, of which grain amounted to 1,971 tons and sugar and *jagri* to 2,931 tons. Most of the grain came from the Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, Sugar and *Jagri* from Bhiwani in Hissar and from Uttar Pradesh. Pachpadra and Sambhar supplied the bulk of the salt. Metals, seeds and piece-goods came from the surrounding States, Calcutta and Bombay. Much of the sugar was re-exported to Mewar. The export trade for the same year amounted to 601 tons of which grain formed the largest item. In 1891, the imports had gone up to 22,945 tons, chiefly owing to the increase of imports in grain and pulses, as local crop failure was met by import of large consignments from outside. Exports were again out of all proportion to imports, being 1,737 tons only. The year 1902, following the great famine of 1898-1900, found grain imports still at a high level being 18,022 tons. However, import of sugar and *jagri* maintained the average of 2,184 tons. The total imports were 22,196 tons while the exports were only 1,240 tons. It may be noted that in the famine years 1898-1900 grain to the tune of 61,972 and 53,539 tons respectively, was

imported into Ajmer, Merwara. The import of principal commodities, in 1911, was 18,741 tons. The total export from the Ajmer city for the same year (1911) was 2,108, of which metals and manufactures from metals formed 1,342 tons.

The chief export in the part of Kishangarh State area, which now forms a part of Ajmer district, were cotton and wool, while the chief imports included sugar, salt, piece-goods and cereals. A good deal of cotton, which now goes to Beawar, before the turn of this century, was exported to Agra, Aligarh, Kanpur, and Hathras. Beawar was the chief market of exports to and imports from the former Marwar and Mewar States, but since retrocession and then the formation of greater Rajasthan, its trade has received a severe setback. In 1940, the grains and pulses imported through Beawar were 20,195 tons against 4,607 tons in 1930. The huge increase was apparently due to growing population of the district and the local scarcities. In 1949, the imports fell to 8,269 tons, obviously, owing to the restrictions imposed on exports of food-grains by the neighbouring states. Imports through Ajmer were nil in 1930 and 33,123 tons in 1940. This was due to the imports of food-grains which was made through the Provincial Governments mostly from Uttar Pradesh and Punjab at that time. Ajmer city is, thus, only a centre of trade with Jaipur, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. Nasirabad and Bijainagar are, however, growing *Mandies* for Mewar produce as also local produce of Kekri and Beawar sub-divisions. In 1949, grains and pulses amounting to 5,320 tons were imported through Nasirabad against 3,420 tons in 1940 and 1,758 tons in 1930. Among other imports of the district are sugar, jurgi, oilseeds and salt.

The wool import in Beawar town was 1994 tons in 1930, 3,475 tons in 1949 and 2,195 tons in 1960-61. The exports rose from 1,261 tons in 1930 to 2,982 tons in 1949 and to 61,452 tons in 1960-61. In 1960-61, 108 tons of maize was exported to Delhi and other places from Madanganj (Kishangarh) and in the same year, 473 tons of gram was exported to Bombay, Ahmadabad and Madras from the same *Mandi*.

Nasirabad is the biggest market for export of hides and skins.

Kekri sub-division is considered to be the granary of the district. Its exports consists of grains, cotton, wool, cumin and opium. The cotton finds exports via Nasirabad. Gram and pulses are exported to Mathura, Narnoul, Jamnagar, Poona, Hoogli and Miraj, while Zeera is exported to Calcutta, Kanpur, Bombay, Agra and Delhi. Beawar is the greatest entrepot of wool and cotton in the district. Wool is ex-

ported from Beawar to Panipat, Bombay, Mirzapur, Badur and Kanpur, while cotton is sent to Bombay and Ahmadabad.

The war had given great impetus to the mica industry. The district is rich in mica deposits throughout and felspar and quartz are also in abundance. Mica is generally exported to Kodarma (Bihar), where it is processed and exported to foreign countries. Felspar and quartz are exported to ceramic industries in Saurashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi.

TRADE CENTRES

The important trade-centres or *Mandis* of the district are: Ajmer, Beawar, Kishangarh (Madanganj), Kekri, Nasirabad and Bijainagar. Of these, Ajmer, Beawar, Madanganj and Nasirabad are connected by rail and the rest by road. Beawar is the biggest market for cotton and wool and Kekri and Madanganj are famous for the export of Zeera.

Ajmer

The Ajmer *Mandi* is fed by villages lying within a radius of 5 to 20 miles from the city. According to the studies made by the Agricultural Marketing Officer, there are about 145 villages which send their produce to the *mandi*. The main arrivals at the *mandi* and their average annual quantities are as follows:

				(Figure in Quintals)
Commodity				Annual Arrivals
1. Wheat	..	..		1,51,500
2. Grain	..	..		83,000
3. Barley	..	..		42,700
4. Jowar	..	..		10,400
5. Bajra	..	..		4,900
6. Maize	..	..		15,600
7. Rice	..	..		30,000
8. Oilseeds	..	..		33,000
9. Cotton	..	..		10,000
10. Chillies	..	..		5,000
11. Wool	..	..		1,000

Wheat, gram, barley, Jowar and Bajra are mainly imported from Punjab and Madhya Pradesh and the rest of the articles, from various places in Rajasthan. The main items of exports from the *Mandi* are

wheat, grain, Jowar, Bajra, maize and barley. Wheat is exported to Delhi, Jamnagar and Agra; grain to Indore, Palanpur, Rajkot and Bombay; barley to Narnoul, Delhi and U.P.; Jowar to Ahmedabad, Delhi, Rajkot, Madras and Punjab and Bajra to Mehsana etc. The following statement shows the figures of exports and imports from the Ajmer mandi during the year 1961:

Commodity	Imports	Exports
1. Wheat	1,30,560	1,996
2. Grain	26,176	4,704
3. Jowar	—	3,400
4. Bajra	—	—
5. Maize	—	2,853

The State Warehousing Corporation maintains a warehouse at Ajmer of a capacity of 4,200 bags.

Beawar

The hinterland of the Mandi consists of all the villages of Beawar Tahsil and a few more of Ajmer, Kekri, Badner (Bhilwara district), Haripura (Pali district) and Bhil (Udaipur district) tahsils. It is the second biggest market for wool in Rajasthan. The Central Government has taken up the grading of wool in Beawar mandi. It is a wholesale primary market for wool, chillies, cotton and food grains. The figures of recent average yearly arrivals and exports of the Mandi, are as follows:

Commodity	Arrivals	(Figure in Quintals) Exports (1961-62)
1. Wheat	38,086	4,116
2. Gram	14,399	3,129
3. Maize	12,187	1,002
4. Bajra	2,908	256
5. Jowar	14,219	—
6. Barley	15,000	—
7. Chillies	16,000	—
8. Til	33,552	—
9. Wool	48,087	23,674
10. Kapas (raw cotton)	33,803	—

Wheat is mainly exported to Bombay, Ahmadabad and Jamnagar; gram, bajra and maize to Ahmadabad, Bombay and Gauhati and wool is sent to Bombay, Baroda and Panipat.

The State Warehousing Corporation maintains a warehouse of a capacity of 2,500 bags. However, the total storage capacity available in the mandi is worth 60,000 bags.

Madanganj

The Kishangarh mandi is better known as the Madanganj mandi. The mandi is fed by more than 160 villages of the Kishangarh and other tahsils of Ajmer district. Arrivals are also had from as distant places as Madras, Meerut and places in Madhya Pradesh and Punjab.

The average annual arrivals of various commodities in the Mandi are as follows:

		(Figures in Mds.)
Commodity		Arrivals
1. Wheat	..	3,00,000
2. Gram	..	2,50,000
3. Barley	..	2,50,000
4. Maize	..	1,00,000
5. Jowar	..	30,000
6. Bajra	..	40,000
7. Zeera	..	50,000
8. Chillies	..	1,00,000
9. Coconuts	..	50,000
10. Gur	..	2,00,000
11. Sugar	..	4,000
12. Cotton seeds	..	2,00,000
13. Groundnut oil	..	25,000

(or 50,000 tins approximately)

The main exports from the mandi consist of gram, maize, Zeera and chillies. Gram is exported to the States of Madras and Uttar Pradesh; maize to Madhya Pradesh; zeera to Kanpur and Delhi and chillies to Uttar Pradesh and places within the State itself.

Kekri

There are about 195 villages within the extent of the hinterland of the *mandi*. The *mandi* also receives goods from the states of Madhya Pradesh and Punjab and places like Kota and Bombay.

The average annual arrivals and exports of the *Mandi* are as follows:

Commodity	(Figures in Mds.)	
	Arrivals	Exports
1. Wheat	1,32,360	20,000
2. Gram	34,980	32,000
3. Barley	56,800	10,000
4. Jowar	36,000	15,000
5. Bajra	16,600	—
6. Maize	46,200	4,000
7. Cotton	82,200	46,000
8. Til seed	38,400	—
9. Rice	2,000	—
10. Kapas	—	10,000
11. Spices	—	5,000

Wheat is sent to Ajmer, Jaipur and Kota; gram to Pali; barley to Jhalrapatan; jowar to Jodhpur and kapas (cotton) to Nasirabad.

The Central Warehousing Corporation has a warehouse at Kekri with a capacity of 9,000 bags.

Bijainagar

The main arrivals at the *mandi* are wheat, gram, maize, cotton and oilseeds. The average annual arrivals are as follows:

Commodity	(In Quintals)	
	Arrivals	
1. Wheat	..	14,900
2. Gram	..	10,000
3. Barley	..	41,000
4. Zeera	..	1,000
5. Maize	..	23,100
6. Cotton (mixed)	..	29,600

Commodity	Arrivals
7. Cotton (loose)	10,000
8. Cotton (press)	2,100
9. Oilseeds	40,000

The *Mandi* exports wheat to Baroda, Dondreacha and Rajpura; gram to Bombay, Delhi, Indore and Hawrah; zeera to Agra, Bhagalpur, Delhi and Danbad; maize to Bhopal, Bombay, Kanpur and Morvi; cotton to Hathras and Modinagar and oilseeds to Bombay, Bhavnagar and Rajkot.

The Central Warehousing Corporation maintains a warehouse at Bijainagar with a capacity of 10,000 bags.

Nasirabad

Situated at a distance of 24 Km. from Ajmer, Nasirabad is comparatively a small *mandi*. The average annual arrivals at the *mandi* are as follows:

Commodity	(Figures in Quintals)
Arrivals	
1. Wheat	6,100
2. Gram	18,400
3. Barley	14,400
4. Jowar	6,000
5. Bajra	2,000
6. Maize	12,000
7. Til	4,300
8. Kapas	2,500
9. Groundnut	2,000
10. Chillies	500

There are no large scale exports from the *mandi* and the storage facility provided by private agencies is of about 15,000 bags.

The following tables give an idea of the imports and exports of the four important *mandies* of the district.

Statement showing the total despatch and Export of different commodities for the year 1960-61 (July 1960 to June 1961)

(Figures in Mds.)

S. No.	Name of the commodity	Ajmer		Beawar		Kokri		Madanganj	
		Despatch	Export	Despatch	Export	Despatch	Export	Despatch	Export
1.	Wheat	997	345	1,431	483	—	—	30,123	25 seers
2.	Gram	—	22,840	1,294	11,292	—	—	1,685	mds. 10 seers
3.	Jowar	534	5,031	—	—	—	—	—	3,210 mds. 7 seers
4.	Bajra	122	187	2	—	—	—	655	mds. 15 seers
5.	Maize	1,028	9,036	—	—	—	—	1,888	mds. 5 seers
6.	Barley	287	1,842	—	—	—	—	19,043	mds. 15 seers
7.	Wool	—	—	202	70,571	—	—	—	953 mds. 19 seers
8.	Cotton	—	—	—	—	—	15,245	—	—

Statement showing the total arrivals of different commodities for
the year 1960-61 (from July 1960 to June 1961)
(Year starting from July to June)

(Figures in Mds.)

S. No.	Name in the commodity	Kekri	Beawar	Madanganj	Ajmer
1.	Wheat	69,744	95,643	1,59,184	1,20,142
2	Gram	40,456	37,485	20,659	74,419
3.	Barley	50,249	—	34,532	41,852
4.	Jowar	52,010	—	—	14,928
5.	Maize	7,560	—	25,783	24,048
6.	Bajra	—	39,450	6,672	10,146
7.	Cotton	83,412	—	—	—
8.	Wool	—	36,259	—	—

Traders' and Merchants' Associations

Following are the important Traders' and Merchants' Associations in the district:

1. Chamber of Commerce, Kishangarh.
2. The Wool Merchants' Association, Beawar.
3. The Tijarati Chamber Sarrafan, Beawar.
4. The Vastra Vyapar Sangh, Beawar.
5. General Merchants' Association, Beawar.
6. The Kirana Merchants' Association, Beawar.
7. The Cloth Merchants' Association, Beawar.
8. Vyaparik Chambers Sarrafan, Gulabpura.

These associations look after the interests of their members and deal with the Government agencies and Railways in order to run the business smoothly. They negotiate with the Municipal Committee or council in regard to the levy of octroi duty, hours of opening and closing of shops etc. They also collect statistics in regard to their respective trade and business and look after the charity institutions run with the help of the charges collected from sellers and buyers in the *mandi*.

Fairs

A major fair is held at Pushkar every year on the 11th day of Kartik month. Pushkar is a celebrated place of pilgrimage and according to Col. Tod, the great sanctity of its lake is equalled, only by that of Mansarovar. It is due to the belief that it was here that God Brahma performed the 'Yajna', and the river Sarasvati reappears in five streams. The legend connected with these two beliefs may be found in the *Pushkar-Mahatmya* of the *Padma Purana*. The social and religious importance has been more fully described in the chapter on People, while its commercial aspect has been described in the chapter on Agriculture and Irrigation. At Ajmer another major fair is held from the first to the sixth day of the month of Rajab, each year, which is commonly known as *Urs Mela*. The Shrine where the fair is held is known as *Dargah Khawaja Moin-ud-din Chishti* and is a place of veneration and pilgrimage for all and for Muslims in particular. People in lakhs throng from all parts of the country and Muslims from other countries also come to celebrate the *Urs*. The detailed description with historical

background of the *Dargah* finds place in the chapter on Places of Interest.

There is a temple in the memory of *Tejaji* at *Sarsara* in *Ajmer* district and every year, in the month of *July*, a fair is held there. Besides, at other places in the district and in some of the other districts of *Rajasthan* also, similar fair is held to commemorate his memory. A detailed description regarding the legendary background is given in the chapter on People.

A fair known as *Balaji ka Mela* is held at *Pranhera* in *Kekri Panchayat Samiti* on *Chaitra sudi Purnima* in the memory of *Shri Balaji* which is attended by large crowds.

The *Pashuda* fair is held at *Baghera* village in *Kekri Panchayat Samiti* from 28th *March* to 3rd *April* every year and is attended by nearly 5,000 persons. It is important for the exchange transactions in cattle that take place during the fair.

Co-operation in Trade

Co-operative department is taking keen interest in the sphere of promoting co-operative marketing. There are six co-operative marketing societies which in *March 1961* had a total membership of 12,681 persons. There are at present (*March 1961*), 38 consumers' stores in the district, having total membership of 6,992 persons.

Weights and Measures

Mr. J. D. Latouche in the *Gazetteer of Ajmer-Merwara* of 1875, described that the gold and silver weight table in use at that time were as follows:

4 Mungs	= 1 Rati
8 Ratis	= 1 Masha
12 Masha	= 1 Tola

The weights used in the city of *Ajmer* were the Government *chattank*, *seer* and *maund* of 80 lbs. in the district, the following table of weights was in use:

18 Masha	= 1 Pukkapis
2½ Pukkapis	= 1 Kuccha Chattank
4 Chattanks	= 1 Pao

2 Paos	=	1 Adhsera
2 Adhsera	=	1 Seer
5 Seer	=	1 Panseree or Dhari
8 Panseree	=	1 Maund (Kuccha) = 27 seers & 80 tolas

Time was measured as follows:

1 Breath	=	4 seconds
6 Breaths	=	1 Pal = 24 seconds
10 Pals	=	1 Kshan = 4 Minutes
6 Kshan	=	1 Ghari = 24 Minutes
7½ Gharis	=	1 Pahar = 3 hours
8 Pahars	=	1 day and night = 24 hours

Cloth measures were:

Diameter of a Pukkapairs	=	1 Ungli
28 Unglis	=	1 Hath
1½ Haths	=	Gaj = 7/8th of 36 inches

Measures of Distance were:

28 Unglish	=	1 Hath
84 Haths	=	1 Jarib of 20 chattas
50 Jaribs	=	1 kos = 2450 yards

The Ajmer *bigha* was equal to square of 44 yards, and 2½ *bighas* were exactly equal to an acre:

1 Sqare Cuhatta 6 feet 7 inches	=	1 Bishwansi
20 Bishwansi	=	1 Bishwa
20 Bishwas	=	1 Bigha

Most of these weights and measures have been common till recently and still some of them are conveniently used in the daily transactions. But recently, metric system has been introduced in the district also for all types of transactions.

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

OLD ROUTES

Till the advent of motor vehicles, the chief means of transport in this area were camels, horses and bullock-carts. In ancient times, Ajmer was a centre of trade between Bombay and Upper India and for many years, the city was the principal mart for the exchange of European goods and the products of Rajputana and Northern India. All trade and traffic followed certain well defined routes as the Aravalli hills could be crossed with ease only through the valleys. The gazetteer of Ajmer-Merwara of 1904 (page 2) mentions four well known passes in Beawar tahsil through which trade was carried on by the *banjaras* on bullock-carts. There were (i) the Barr Pass on the west which was a portion of the Imperial road from Agra to Ahmdabad, (ii) Pakheria and (iii) Sheopura Ghats on the east, the first leading to Masuda and the second to Mewar and (iv) Sure ghata which led to Mewar. The Kachbali, Pipli Undabari Sarupa Ghata and Dewair passes in the Todgarh tahsil led from Merwara to Marwar. There were no passes deserving of the name in Ajmer except where the road to Pushkar, six miles west of Ajmer city, traverses a dip in the Nagpahar range.

The way from Surat to Ajmer in early seventeenth century, lay via Mandu and Chittor and Sir Thomas Roe is known to have used this very route when he came to Ajmer in 1615 to present his credentials to Jahangir whom he also accompanied on his march to Ujjain. Roe's route has been described as follows: "Surat (20th of September 1615)—Bairat (Viara in the Nandsari Division)—Baglan (in Nasik District)—Narampore (Navapur in the Khandesh District)—Nandurbar—Tolnere (Thalmer in Sirpur Sub-division)—Chapre (Chopra)—Brampore (Burhanpore 24th November, 1615)—Burgome (Borgaon in the Nimar District)—Mandoa (Mandu)—Cytar (Chitor) Adjmere (Ajmere 23rd December, 1615)". The route followed by Jahangir from Ajmer to Mandu in 1616-17² was as follows:

1. D. Pant, *The Commercial Policy of the Moguls*, p. 129.

2. Frances Gladwin's *'The History of Jahangir'*, Edited by Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswami Aiyangar', B. G. Paul & Co., Madrao, 1930, p. 172.

	Cose
"October 30th he marched from Ajmeer to Rewary; halted there seven days	1
November 7th to Dessahwalee, halted here three days	$2\frac{3}{8}$
11th to Madhel.	$2\frac{1}{4}$
12th to Ramsir	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Nov. 21st to Belood, halted two days	4
Nov. 24th to Sahal	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Nov. 26th to Chowsah	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Nov. 28th to Deogong, halted two days	3
Dec. 1st to Bharmehl, halted two days	$3\frac{3}{4}$
Dec. 4th to Kahil, halted two days	2
Dec. 7th to Lassah near the pergunnah of Bhloodh	$2\frac{3}{4}$
Dec. 10th Hirdera, halted six days	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Dec. 12th to Sowreth	$3\frac{1}{4}$
Dec. 14th to Birdera, halted two days	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Dec. 17th to Kaoshtal, halted two days	$4\frac{1}{8}$
Dec. 18th to Khelnore, halted two days	$3\frac{1}{8}$
Dec. 20th to Howeleh halted one day	4
Dec. 22nd to Ankenorch, halted two days	$3\frac{3}{4}$
Dec. 25th to Leyaneh, halted two days	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Dec. 17th* to Gowraneh, on the river Chambal, halted three days	$2\frac{1}{4}$
Dec. 31st to Sultanpoor, halted one day	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Jan. 2nd 1617, to Manpoor	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Jan. 4th. to Jarduhah	$4\frac{3}{8}$
Jan. 7th to Roamaneh, halted two days	$4\frac{1}{2}$
Jan. 9th to Kanhadoss, halted two days	$2\frac{3}{8}$
Jan. 12th through the pass of Chanda Ghatty to the village of Amjar, the boundary of Malwah	$4\frac{3}{8}$
ALTOGETHER	84

* This seems to be a printing mistake. The date of March to Gowraneh should be 27th.

	Cose
Jan. 14th from Ajmeer* to Kycrabad	3 $\frac{5}{8}$
Jan. 15th to Sendheoreh	3
Jan. 18th to Bejarce	4 $\frac{2}{3}$
Jan. 20th to Bulbullec	4 $\frac{3}{8}$
Jan. 24th to Amerna	2 $\frac{7}{8}$
Jan. 26th Marched. He has here omitted the name of the place as well as the distance.	
Jan. 28th to Boolkehtery	3 $\frac{5}{8}$
Jan. 30th to Cossimkerch	5
February 1st to Cazeccyan	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
February 2nd to Kendawul	2 $\frac{1}{8}$
February 3rd to Culceyadeh halted three days	2
February 7th arrived at Owjem	

February 27th Encamped by a tank at the foot of the fort of Mandow."

Thômas Coryat, who described himself as the "World's foot post" came to Ajmer in 1615 from Jerusalem; the journey from Aleppo to Ajmer was performed entirely on foot and cost him but "three pounds all told of which I was cozened of no less than tenné shilling sterling."¹

"Between Adgemere and Agra—at every ten courses (which is an ordinarye days journeye) there is a serralia or place of lodging boothe for man and horse, and hostesses to dresse our victuals if we please, paying a matter of 3 d. both for horse and meate dressinge."²

The French traveller Jean de Thevenot has recorded that the capital city of "Azmer...is...from Agra about sixty two Leagues." Describing the route he further says, "It is Six Leagues from Agra to Fetipur [Fatchpur-Sikri], six Leag to B (a) rambad. Seven Leag to

* This seems to be a printing mistake. The place on 14th January should be Amjer.

1. European Travellers in India (Travel and Travellers in India, A. D. 1400-1700)—Oaten, Edward Farley, London, 1909.

2. Foster, Early Travels in India, p. 225 quoted in Indian Travels of Thevenot and Careri (Indian Records Series). Edited by Surendra Nath Sen National Archives of India, New Delhi 1949, p. 1 VII.

Hendouen [Hindaun]. Seven Leag to Mogul-serai. Six Leag to Lascot [Lalsot]. Seven Leag to Chasol [Chaksu]. Four Leag to Pipola [Piplo]. Seven Leag to Mosa-baa [Mozabad]. Five Leag to Bander-Sandren [Bandar-Sindri]. Six Leag to Mandil [Manderi], one Leag to Azmer [Ajmer].”

Tod has described the way from Ajmer to Kota as lying through Shahpura and Bundi.

Militarily and politically also, the place was considered of much strategic importance. Akbar made it his headquarters for forages into Rajputana and Gujarat. The British also made it their fort for exercising political and military pressure on the surrounding Rajput states. The Route Book of the Bombay Command of the Indian army prepared by the office of the Deputy Adjutant General in 1903 mentions many routes coming to or passing through important places in the district. These are described below:

1. Baroda to Nasirabad, general direction N.N.E., via Virpur, Kherwara and Udaipur total marches 33, and total distance 357 miles three furlongs. Sandy cart-road confined here and there by hedges and sometimes lying through ravines, upto Udaipur, metalled for thirty miles thence and cart road again for the remainder. Supplies abundant between Umreth and Virpur, at Bakrol, Kherwara, Rikhabdeo, Udaipur, Nathwara² [Nathdwara], Kankroh, Amet, Sitamba and Bednor en route.

An alternative route involved diversion from Umreth (27½ miles from Baroda) meeting the original route at Udaipur (196 miles seven furlongs) from where the two again parted only to meet at Nasirabad. This was a shorter route having 30 marches spread over 345 miles and two furlongs.

2. From Deesa to Ajmer it was 239 miles and six furlongs (23 marches) via Sirohi, Pali and Beawar, the general direction being NE. The road was sandy upto Sanwara (50 miles 1¾ furlongs from Deesa) but in good condition beyond. Supplies available generally throughout

1. Indian Travels of Therenot and Careri, Edited by Surendra Nath Sen, National Archives of India New Delhi, 1949 p. 68.

2. A walled town situated on the slope of a hill almost surrounded by hills, celebrated for Hindu pilgrimage. “Routes in the Bombay Command 1903 p. 286.”

the route, being abundant at Sirohi (65 miles $5\frac{1}{4}$ furlongs), Erinpura (88 miles $6\frac{1}{4}$ furlongs), Pali (136 miles $2\frac{1}{4}$ furlongs), Sojat (159 miles $6\frac{1}{4}$ furlongs) and Beawar (204 miles $6\frac{1}{4}$ furlongs).

3. The route from Deesa to Nasirabad followed the Deesa-Ajmer route upto Mangaliawas (223 miles $6\frac{1}{4}$ furlongs) and then went over to Nasirabad, a distance of 15 miles, the total route distance being 239 miles $2\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs in 22 marches. The alternative to this route was via Idar (72 miles three furlongs); Kherwara (124 miles), Udaipur (173 miles seven furlongs) and Nathwara [Nathdwara] (199 miles seven furlongs). This was a longer route having 30 marches spread over 324 miles three furlongs.

4. Hyderabad to Nasirabad was 450 miles (36 marches) via Mirpur Khas (41 miles five furlongs), Umarkot (98 miles), Balmer (209 miles one furlong) and Jodhpur (336 miles five furlongs). The road was generally bad upto Mirpur Khas (41 miles five furlongs) from where upto Jurbi, a distance of 10 miles six furlongs, there was no direct road and the way lay through old Mirpur crossing the Jamarao canal at the place by a bridge, thence across an uncultivated plain along Jamrao canal to Jurbi after which it was generally sandy and heavy sometimes lying over plain and cultivated country. From Bundakuni the road was good upto Nasirabad. Supplies were abundant at the following places (figures in brackets being miles and furlongs): Jam ka Tando (10-4), Tando Alahyar (24), Umarkot (98), Goddro (161), Balmer (209-1) and Balotra (268-5) to Jodhpur (336-5).

5. The way from Jacobabad to Nasirabad (S. by E.) lay through Shikarpur (25-7), Sukhuri (48), Jaisalmer (198-1) and Jodhpur (359-5), the total distance of 473 miles being divided into 37 marches. From Jaisalmer onwards the road was generally good though sandy and heavy in some parts and before Jaisalmer it was generally very sandy, heavy supplies were available at Shikarpur, Sukkur, Sangrar, Jaisalmer, Pokaram and Jodhpur.

6. From Ncemuch to Nasirabad the route came through Chitorgarh (36) and Ralia (90), total marches being 13 and total distance 127 miles and three furlongs. The road was unmetalled but good and supplies were abundant at most places.

7. Nasirabad to Jaipur was through Srinagar (10), Kishangarh (22-5), Bandar Sindri (50-5), Dudu (43), Mokhampura (53-7), Dahmi (67-2) and Jaipur. The total distance was 81 miles six furlongs divided

into seven marches. Supplies were generally good throughout the route and there was a made road.

8. Nasirabad to Jodhpur was 113 miles and three furlongs. There were nine marches, the important stations en route being Mangaliawas (15), Ras (36) and Ramsani (88). This was a part of the Hyderabad-Nasirabad route.

9. The way from Nasirabad to Kampti was through Dcoli (57-4), Bundi (87-4), Kota (114-4), Guna (223), Siroj (272-2), Sagar (350-6) and Chindwara (512-6). The total distance was 583 miles in 54 marches. The road was good and supplies sufficient as the way lay through prosperous towns.

10. From Nasirabad to Bharatpur it was 195 miles in 18 marches, via Kishangarh (22-5), Jaipur (81-6) and Kamalpur (159-4). There was a made road on the entire route and the supplies were plentiful.

11. Bikaner was 158 miles three furlongs from Nasirabad via Reu (59-3 from Nasirabad) and Alai (107-7). The road was partly good, partly fair weather and partly over a plain covered with jungle. Supplies were generally abundant.

12. Nasirabad-Alwar route was 172 miles and two furlongs long, split in 14 marches, via Kishangarh, Bandar Sindri, Samodh and Narampura. Upto Bander Sandri it was a part of the Nasirabad-Bharatpur route. There was generally tolerably good road upto Kala Dera (88-3) after which it was bad and heavy. Supplies were abundant throughout.

13. Nasirabad and Agra were 195 miles apart via Dudu (43), Jaipur (81-6) and Kamalpur (159-4). Upto Dahme (67-2 from Nasirabad) it was a part of Nasirabad-Bharatpur route and a part of Jaipur-Bharatpur route beyond. Some other ways lay through 1. Jhelaya, Gangapur and Hindaun (total 202 miles seven furlongs) 2. Dudu, Chatsu and Hindaun (total 200 miles five furlongs) and 3. Dudu, Chatsu, Dausa and Halena (total distance 202 miles and five furlongs).

Other routes to Nasirabad were from Bahawalpur via Kuchawan, Sujangarh and Bikaner (274 miles); Delhi via Dudu, Samodh and Kot (173 miles one furlong); Gwalior via Diggi, Chor Malarna and Karauli (175 miles six furlongs); Hissar via Sambhar, Sri Madhopur and Papra (156 miles). Multan via Sen, Alai and Bikaner (234 miles and two furlongs); Mathura via Jaipur, Dausa, Rajgarh and Nagar (198 miles six

furlongs) and an alternate way from Mathura via Dudu, Jaipur and Dansa (159 miles four furlongs).

Of the routes passing through the district, the important ones were Mhow-Delhi, Neemuch-Delhi and Neemuch-Hissar routes passing through Nasirabad and the Alwar-Delhi route passing through Kishangarh.

ROADS AND ROAD TRANSPORT

Roads

The district is considerably better placed than many other districts of the state with regard to roads, possessing as it did, a total mileage of 906 miles and three furlongs at the end of the Second Five Year Plan. The following table shows that about 50 per cent of the total mileage is painted. Metalled and Fair weather roads measure 140 miles four furlongs and 228 miles and seven furlongs respectively.

Abstract table showing the position regarding roads at the end of the Second Five Year Plan

(Miles & furlongs)						
S. No.	Classification	Painted	Metalled	Gravelled	Fair weather	Total
1.	National Highway	76-6	—	—	—	76-6
2.	State Highways	99-1	—	—	—	99-1
3.	Major District Roads	129-7	28-6	—	4-0	162-5
4.	Other District Roads	179-4	76-1	4-0	139-3	399-0
TOTAL		485-0	104-7	4-0	143-3	737-4
5.	Municipal Roads	25-2	1-2	—	—	26-4
6.	Panchayat Samiti Roads	—	34-3	22-4	85-4	142-3
GRAND TOTAL		510-2	140-4	26-4	228-7	906-3

Besides these Government roads, the Public Works Department also maintains 26½ miles of Municipal Roads and 142 miles and three furlongs of roads belonging to the Zila Parishad.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY—The National Highway No. 8 running between Delhi and Bombay passes through the district for a distance of 76 miles and six furlongs. The road, which is bitumenized throughout, enters the district from Jaipur near Khera village and crosses into Udaipur district near Bali village.

STATE HIGHWAYS—There are five roads, which fall into the category of state highways. The principal of these are: (i) Ajmer-Nasirabad (11 miles), (ii) Nasirabad-Vijayanagar (26 miles seven furlongs), (iii) Nasirabad-Deoli (44 miles five furlongs), a five mile four furlong portion of the Deoli-Bundi Road and another small chunk of 4½ miles between Beawar and Sendra Road and parts of some other roads totalling six miles five furlongs. All of these roads are bitumenized, total length being 99 miles and one furlong.

MAJOR DISTRICT ROADS—A total of 162 miles and five furlongs of road come within this category. Out of this 129 miles and seven furlongs are bitumenized, 28 miles six furlongs metalled and four miles gravelled. The roads concerned are:—

(Miles and furlongs)	
1. Kishangarh-Roopangarh	15-2
2. Kishangarh-Arain	14-4
3. Arain-Sarwar	28-0 (5 miles painted, 19 miles metalled, 4 miles gravelled)
4. Ajmer-Pushkar	8-3
5. Pushkar-Pisangan	16-0
6. Beawar-Masuda	14-0
7. Masuda-Bandanwara (14/0 to 26/4)	12-4 (10 miles 6 furlongs painted, 1 mile 6 furlongs metalled)
8. Bandanwara-Kekri via Bhinai	35-0
9. Nasirabad-Ramsar	10-0 (2 miles painted 8 miles metalled)
10. Ajmer-Srinagar (2/0 to 11/0)	9-0

TOTAL

162-5

OTHER DISTRICT ROADS—The following roads belong to this category:

	Painted	Metalled	Grave- lled	Fair weather	Total
1. Pisangan-Mangliawas	12/-	—	—	—	12/-
2. Govindgarh-Alniawas	2/-	—	—	—	2/-
3. Pushkar-Badigati	2/4	—	—	2/2	4/6
4. Ajmer-Ararka	—	17/-	—	3/-	20/-
5. Gegal Khatoon	—	—	—	4/4	4/4
6. Ghagra-Nawalakha	3/-	—	4/-	—	7/-
7. Nasirabad-Mangaliawas	14/2	—	—	—	14/2
8. Sardhana-Bither	7/4	—	—	—	7/4
9. Chorasiwas around Anasagar Lake	2/7	—	—	—	2/7
10. Deoli-Nangla	3/-	5/6	—	—	8/6
11. Tantoli-Goala	—	—	—	8/-	8/-
12. Srinagar to Bansur	2/-	—	—	13/-	15/-
13. Bandarwara-Sarana Tamlotied	14/3	—	—	—	14/3
14. Nasirabad-Srinagar	11/-	—	—	—	11/-
15. Beer-Tonk	—	3/6	—	—	3/6
16. Mokhampura-Hatundi	3/6	—	—	—	3/6
17. Kekri-Barot	9/-	0/4	—	—	9/4
18. Ramsar-Barot	5/4	—	—	—	5/4
19. Deoli-Sawar	10/-	—	—	—	10/-
20. Kekri-Kedera	—	—	—	14/-	14/-
21. Kekri-Sawar	—	15/-	—	—	15/-
22. Sawar-Kedera	—	—	—	11/-	11/-
23. Link Beawar-Dewair	—	1/4	—	—	1/4
24. Beawar-Kotra	3/-	—	—	11/-	14/-
25. Bhim Barkhera	—	—	—	7/-	7/-
26. Barkhera Todgarh	—	—	—	11/-	11/-
27. Kotra No. 15/6 of Beawar-Devarai	—	—	—	10/-	10/-

Name of the road	Painted		Metalled		Gravelled		Fair weather		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
11. Tantoti-Gocla	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	0	8	0
12. Bhina-Tantoli	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	0	8	0
13. Kharwa-Masuda	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	0	9	0
14. Gegal-Khodam	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	4	4
15. Gegal-Nawalakha	3	0	4	0	—	—	—	—	7	0
16. Bheem-Barakhera	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	0	7	0
17. Begaliawas Kirop	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	0	7	0
18. Nandiau-Nasirabad	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
19. Jathana-Dautra	—	—	4	0	—	—	—	—	4	0
20. Jathana-Nagola	—	—	4	0	—	—	—	—	4	0
21. Makrera-Kesarpura	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	4
22. Budhanwara-Kalesia	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
23. Hatundi-Rajosi	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	0
24. Mayapura-Saradhana	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	0
25. Bhawoni Khara-Kekri	3	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	0
26. Hatundi-Kaklana	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	0
27. Bhahta-Double Phatak	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
28. Dantra-Dodiyana	—	—	2	0	—	—	—	—	2	0
29. Ganahera-Chawandia	—	—	1	0	—	—	—	—	1	0
30. Karnose-Shivpura	—	—	3	0	—	—	—	—	3	0
31. Nasirabad-Dheratan	—	—	1	0	—	—	—	—	1	0
32. Gola-Jethania	—	—	2	0	—	—	—	—	2	0
TOTAL	34	3	22	4	—	—	85	4	142	3

MUNICIPAL ROADS—Besides the P.W.D. maintained municipal roads, the Ajmer Municipal Committee maintains some of its own roads totalling about 12 miles.

Road Transport

VEHICLES—In the whole district there were at the end of 1960-61, a total of 1,730 vehicles as follows:

Type of vehicle	Number	
	1961	1960
Private vehicles	794	752
Private Buses	24	16
Motor Cycles	277	269
Taxi	48	52
Stage Carriers	169	170
Public Carriers	236	199
Private Carriers	92	100
Tractors	46	92
Others	44	31
TOTAL	1,730	1,681

As would be seen from the table above, there are 48 taxis in the district. All of these are in the Ajmer town, where the heavy traffic and material well being of the people make their plying profitable. The authorised taxi fare is 50 nP. per mile. The use of taxi as a means of local transport is however, limited to the elite of the town or the affluent tourists. It is common for pilgrims to the sacred lake of Pushkar to share a taxi and for the cab-man to charge the customers per head. During the Pushkar fair, the rates are enhanced.

Among the hire carriages, the tonga is the most popular means of transport in most of the towns. Only Ajmer Municipal Committee has introduced a scheme for their registration, the number of registered tongas in this town being 350. Tongas ply in other towns also.

Other vehicles seen on the roads, are bullock-carts and hand drawn carts. These are used more for hauling commodities than men. In the countryside pack animals, e.g., camels, donkeys and ponies are still rendering an important service.

The bicycle is used both in towns and the rural areas by the common man as the chief vehicle for routine and nearby jaunts. The use of bicycle in great numbers, has been facilitated by the presence of good roads which often go deep into the countryside and in many cases, join the village track, thus affording an opportunity to the common man to put his vehicle to good use. There are six municipal committees in the district but as none of them has imposed a cycle tax: it is difficult to assess the number of cycles in the district.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT—The district is served by the Rajasthan State Roadways on the Kota-Ajmer route which was nationalized in February, 1961. The route is operated as a state monopoly and there is one direct bus daily each way. A number of buses, however, ply on different sections of the route. Thus, there is one bus on Ajmer-Kekri section, another on the Ajmer-Deoli section, six buses daily on the Ajmer-Nasirabad section and eight on the Bundi-Kota section and vice versa. These sectional services have been started due to the fact that the number of through passengers from Ajmer to Kota is not as much as the number of those travelling between stations 'en' route.

The Rajasthan State Roadways maintain a depot at Ajmer where the fleet of buses is stationed under the overall supervision of a Depot Manager.

There is no municipal owned transport service in the district but private operators run local bus services.

Before nationalization, a number of private bus services connected place within and outside the district. Most of these services organized in the district itself, while others were registered elsewhere but either passed through or terminated in this district. Two such services were the Ajmer-Kota service and the Jaipur-Ajmer service. Jaipur Ajmer used to be a very busy route and afforded brisk business to the operators. There were 17 buses running each way daily between 6.30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Now the private bus services connect the district headquarters town of Ajmer and the sub-divisional towns of Beawar, Kekri and Kishangarh with, among other places, Jaipur, Kota, Pushkar, Ramsar, Ramgarh, Pisangan, Harmara, Bhanvta, Srinagar, Rupangarh, Ararka, Bijaynagar, Beer, Sarwar, Diggi, Arain, Reed, Harsore, Parbatsar, Nasirabad, Todgarh, Bara Khand, Malpura, Todaraisingh, Shahpura, Bhinai, Dewar, Belara, Jawaja and Masuda.

The main bus routes registered with the Assistant Regional Transport Authority, Ajmer are as follows:

(a) Routes registered with A.R.T.O. Ajmer

Route	No. of Buses	Length (Miles)
1. Ajmer-Pushkar via Budha Pushkar, Lila Wewree, Panch kund	13	8
2. Ajmer-Beawar via Tabiji, Sardhana, Kaisarpura, Mangaliawas, Lamna, Kharwa, Mohanpura Sarsara	21	33
3. Ajmer-Ramsar Dhani via Ghugra Gajwana	1	16
4. Ajmer-Ramgarh via Tabiji, Double Phatak poluthan, Kalanda, Kariyab, Rajgarh, Motipura Masuda	4	50
5. Ajmer-Pisangan via Tabiji, Saradhan, Mangaliawas, Jethana	3	28
6. Ajmer-Harmara via Gugra Ghati, Gagwana, Gagal, Kishangarh Patan	2	33
7. Ajmer-Malpura via Parbatpura, Makupura, Baluta, Nasirabad, Sarod, Ramsar, Dabreta, Jeendli Dasoot, Lamba, Diggi	4	60
8. Ajmer-Bhanvta via Saradhana, Bheali	14	1
9. Ajmer-Ramsar via Makhupura, Balunta, Nasirabad	24	2
10. Ajmer-Srinagar via Gulab Bari	3	12
11. Ajmer-Rupangarh via Chachawas, Narwar Salmabad	1	35
12. Ajmer-Ararka via Chachawas, Narwar	2	16
13. Ajmer-Bijaynagar	2	42
14. Ajmer-Bhinai via Jarwara, Bancrwar, Motipura	2	33
15. Ajmer-Beer via Parbatpura, Malikhera	1	12
16. Ajmer-Kishangarh via Ghugra, Gagwana, Gagal	9	16
17. Kishangarh-Sarwar via Gagal, Gagwana, Nasirabad, Larwar	2	52
18. Kishangarh-Bliadoon Nalu, Gelota, Cheer, Barana, Narwa	2	30
19. Kishangarh-Diggi via Baner Sindhri, Pamola Naga Pachewar	4	50
20. Kishangarh-Larwar via Dadiya	4	50

Route	No. of Buses	Length (Miles)
21. Kishangarh-Arain via Katsura	2	16
22. Kishangarh-Arain via Dadia	—	21
23. Kishangarh-Reed via Karkeri, Peelwa	2	35
24. Kishangarh-Harsore via Pooniwas Peela Bajwas	4	50
25. Kishangarh-Parbatsar via Sursara, Roopangarh, Manpura	15	24
26. Kishangarh-Nasirabad via Srinagar, Dhilwara	3	25
27. Kishangarh-Kekri via Baner Sindhri, Lelana, Laba	2	55
28. Pushkar-Beawar via Pisangan	3	38
29. Beawar-Todgarh via Jawaja Bhim	10	44
30. Beawar-Barakhan via Jawaja	2	39
31. Beawar-Nasirabad via Kherwa, Mangliawas, Bheelyawas	5	32
32. Kekri-Malpura via Julia Junia, Ramsar	4	40
33. Kekri-Todaraisingh	4	28
34. Kekri-Sawar via Para	2	15
35. Kekri-Shahpura via Gulabpura	3	35
36. Kekri-Bhinai	3	35
37. Beawar-Bijainagar via Shecopura, Ratanpura, Jecwana Ramgarh, Jaliya	6	30
38. Beawar-Bijainagar via Masuda, Bandanwara	8	42
39. Beawar-Dewar via Jawaja	2	66
40. Beawar-Balera	1	45
41. Beawar-Pisangan via Karwa, Mangaliawas	2	28

GOODS TRAFFIC—There are 328 goods vehicles out of which 92 vehicles are run as private carriers. The authorized freight for public carriers in force as in July, 1961, was three pias per mile per maund for metalled, concrete and bitumenized roads, $4\frac{1}{2}$ pias per maund per mile for gravelled roads and five pias per mile per maund for fair-weather roads.

There are a number of goods transport companies operating from the main towns of the district. These run express (direct) and ordinary

goods services to all the principal business centres in the state and to the more important cities of U.P., Delhi and Madhya Pradesh.

Road Accidents

The table below, shows, separately, the numbers of accidents, vehicles involved, persons injured and persons dead for each year since 1957:—

Year	Number of accidents	Persons Killed	Persons injured	Number of vehicles involved
1957	53	17	73	53
1958	64	15	67	64
1959	82	18	107	93
1960	62	12	85	66
1961	70	21	69	76

Railways

The first railway line in Rajasthan was laid in 1873 from Agra to Bharatpur. It came to Ajmer on August 1, 1875 and when the line to Khandwa was also opened up, the entire system came to be called the Rajputana-Malwa Railway. The other railway sections were opened on the following dates:—

	Date of opening	Miles	Kms.
Rajputana Section			
Phulera to Ajmer	1.8.1875	49.82	80.32
Ajmer to Beawar	15.5.1878	32.42	52.18
Beawar to Haripur	12.8.1879	20.84	33.55
Malwa Section			
Nasirabad to Ajmer	14.2.1876	14.50	23.34
Chittorgarh to Nasirabad	1.12.1891	100.99	162.45

Originally a state railway, the management of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway was handed over to the Bombay, Baroda & Central India Railway on 1st January, 1885 on a 99 years lease. The line was taken over by the state again in January 1943. After reorganization

It would be seen that Ajmer is easily the busiest junction of the district, playing host to 36 passenger trains daily, a number of which either start from or terminate at Ajmer itself. There are three trains each for Nasirabad, Kishangarh and Khandwa, two each for Delhi, and Beawar and one each for Mehsana and Vijayanagar. A similar number of trains arrive at Ajmer from each of these places. Out of the 36 trains received daily two are mail trains, four express with all classes of accommodation, two Janata express trains (having only third class coaches) and the rest, passenger trains.

The Western Railway authorities also maintain an out-agency for passengers bound for Pushkar. These passengers detrain at Ajmer and are carried to Pushkar in buses; from Ajmer the first bus starts at 6.30 a.m. The distance of eight miles is covered in a total running time of 30 minutes. From Pushkar, the first bus leaves at 6.40 a.m. and the thirteenth and the last bus leaves at 9 p.m.

Through coaches from Ajmer to Ahmadabad, Agra Fort, Chittorgarh, Delhi, Hyderabad (Sindh), Jodhpur, Khanpur, Mhow, Ratlam and Udaipur and vice versa, are provided on the appropriate trains. The Delhi-Ahmadabad mails (both up and down) also carry restaurant cars between Ajmer and Ahmadabad.

The passenger traffic is considerable as Ajmer occupies an important place both with regard to its geographical situation and its place in the political and economic life of the district. The influx of passengers increases considerably during the days of Pushkar and Urs fairs.

Goods traffic on the railways is also considerable and on an average, about 26 goods train steam in and out at Ajmer sheds. There is also an express goods service between Ajmer and Jaipur and 'vice versa' with a guaranteed target time of two days. This service operates daily, except Sundays, and was introduced in January 20, 1959.

A marked feature of the railway traffic, both goods and passenger, is that it more or less follows the lines of road transport so far as important places within and near the district, are concerned.

Economic Aspect

The railways have to a certain extent, minimized the rigours of famine, enabling the speedy despatch of relief to stricken areas. Water is also supplied to scarcity areas in railborne tanks. The railway play a very important part in the economic life of the district carrying away

large amounts of surplus commodities like minerals, textiles and leather goods and bringing in food and fodder (especially during famine years) and a variety of other goods needed for the daily life of inhabitants. To an extent, the district and more so, the city of Ajmer, owes its economic prosperity to the advent of railway. The sagging importance of Ajmer as a mart was revived by the railway which also superseded the camels and bullocks as the sole means of transport. The Rajputana Gazetteer of 1904 (Vol. I A, p. 66-67) testifies to this beneficial aspect of the railway in these words: "The opening of the line has conferred great benefits on the district. The population of the towns of Ajmer, Beawar and Nasirabad has increased steadily since 1881, the railway workshops at Ajmer give employment to several thousands of hands and the increased facilities for transport have resulted in the general cheapening of commodities. The recent famines were so wide spread throughout India that prices of food grains were bound to rise high, but the railway has made it possible for local scarcity and even total crop failure to exist without an appreciable rise in the price of food. This phenomenon was a note-worthy feature of the famine of 1891-92. The value of the railway in thus preventing sudden and acute distress in any local area can hardly be over-estimated."

Shri Har Bilas Sarda, writing in 1941 also testified to the same truth, when he recorded the beneficial aspect of railway in his book, *Ajmer—Historical and Descriptive* (p. 379) in these words—"The advent of the Railway to Ajmer resulted in an enormous increase of its population and the physical development of the city. The population of Ajmer when the British took it in 1818 was 24,000. After fifty-four years of British rule, it was only 35,111 in 1872. Suddenly it rose to 48,753 in 1881 on the advent of the Rajputana State Railway, and on the transfer of the railway workshops and offices from Agra to Ajmer in 1886-87, the population rose to 68,849 in 1891. Thus the population was doubled by the railway.

"The railway has greatly stimulated trade and enriched one community immensely. The khadims of Durgah Khwaja Sahab, who were a very poor community, have after the coming of the railway become a most prosperous and rich community, and the khadim Mohalla, the part of the city where they live, once a sparsely populated Mohalla of small houses and huts, has now become the most congested part of Ajmer with tall buildings."

Air Fields

There is no air service to the district. No landing grounds are

The popularity of this means of communication was evidently increasing as indicated by the above figures. Much use of the telegraphic system was made by the merchants of Ajmer and Beawar where a great deal of opium and cotton speculation went on necessitating the use of urgent wires.

The Imperial Gazetteer of India (1909) describes the postal system of Kishangarh, an erstwhile princely state, which now forms part of the Ajmer district, as follows: "There are four British Post offices in the state, three of which are also telegraphic offices. The Darbar has also its own postal system and postage stamps, maintaining 13 local post offices and ten runners over a length of 65 miles."

At the end of 1959-60, there were in all 153 post offices of all categories in the district. This number increased to 163 by the end of 1960-61 (31st March, 1961). There were two Head offices, 46 sub-offices and 115 branch offices. Telegraphic facilities are provided at 28 offices, including the two Head offices.

In towns and nearby villages which are near the main rail or road routes, dak is distributed daily. In places where the main rail and road routes are far away, the dak is distributed through extra-departmental agents who are employed on fixed monthly wages and they travel on foot to effect door to door delivery. Generally, the dak is distributed daily in all the villages where there are small post offices, on alternate days at places farther removed in the country, twice a week in rare cases and once a week in exceptional cases. Such exceptions however, are not many.

The following is a list of post offices in the district as on July 1, 1961, given Head office-wise:—

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. AJMER HEAD POST OFFICE | 10. Kalesara |
| 2. Bhaonta | 11. Kharwa |
| 3. Brickchiawas | 12. Ladpura |
| 4. Dantra | 13. Leeri |
| 5. Gagwana | 14. Makrera |
| 6. Gegal Akhri | 15. Mangaliawas |
| 7. Gola | 16. Makhupura |
| 8. Hatundi | 17. Nagelao |
| 9. Jethana | 18. Rajgarh |

19. Saradhna
20. Tabiji
21. Untra
22. Adarshnagar (c)
23. Alwargate
24. Ashaganj
25. Beawar (c)
26. Jam Gurukul
27. Jalia
28. Kotra
29. Narbad Khera
30. Rajiawas
31. Rupnagar
32. Beawar Chang Gate
33. Beawar City (c)
34. Beawar Railway Station (c)
35. Central Board of Education (Temporary)
36. Christianganj-Ajmer (c)
37. Dargah Sharif (c)
38. Diggi Bazar (Temporary)
39. Ganj-Ajmer (Temporary)
40. General Assurance (Temporary)
41. Gulab Bari
42. Jawaja (c)
43. Barakhan
44. Bara Khera
45. Kirana
46. Lotiana
47. Jonesganj (Temporary)
48. Kaiserganj (c)
49. Kishangarh (c)
50. Akodia
51. Arain (c)
52. Barha
53. Dadia
54. Dhasook
55. Didwara
56. Katsura
57. Lambia
58. Silora
59. Sironj
60. Tikavara
61. Kutcheri Ajmer (c)
62. Madanganj (Kishangarh) (c)
63. Babaicha
64. Bandansindri
65. Bhadoon
66. Harmara
67. Jajota
68. Karkeri
69. Kuchil
70. Narwar
71. Nosal
72. Ralaota
73. Salemabad
74. Sursura
75. Tilaunia
76. Madar (c)
77. Mayo Ajmer (c)
78. Nagra-Ajmer (Temporary)
79. Naya Bazar, Ajmer (Temporary) (c)
80. Parao-Ajmer (Temporary)
81. Pisangan (c)
82. Govindgarh
83. Purani Mandi (Temporary)
84. Pushkar (c)
85. Karel
86. Nand
87. Picholian
88. Ramganj Ajmer (c)
89. Ram Nagar (c)
90. Regimental Bazar Ajmer (c)
91. Roopnagar (Kishangarh) (c)
92. Srinagar Ajmer
93. Beer
94. Kanpura
95. Todgarh (c)
96. Rajasthan Public Service Commission (Temporary)
97. NASIRABAD HEAD POST OFFICE
98. Ashapura
99. Bhawani Khera

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

In 1904, when the last gazetteer of the area was written, the greater part of the population of Ajmer-Merwara was Agricultural. The industrial population accounted for 17.74 per cent of the whole and was chiefly engaged in cotton and leather industries, in the provision of food and drink and in the Railway workshops. General labour as distinct from agriculture, supported 10.59 per cent of the population. Personal service accounted for 5.91 per cent and commerce, for 4.21 per cent. The professions and government service accounted for 2.56 and 2.38 per cent respectively. Persons of independent means without occupation, numbered only 1.80 per cent of the total population. The famine of 1899-1900 resulted in an increase in the number of field labourers at the expense of the tenant class and many occupations were severely affected; among others, many herdsmen, cotton weavers and dyers, cart owners and drivers and professional mendicants had to seek other means of livelihood.

At the time of 1951 Census, however, those dependent upon agriculture directly or indirectly as their principal means of livelihood, formed 45.4 per cent of the total population. The majority portion of 54.6 per cent was accounted for by industry, transport, commerce etc. Details about these occupations are given in the chapter on Economic Trends.

The number of persons engaged in various occupations at the time of 1961 Census is shown in the table below. Figures for the Rajasthan State as a whole, are also given for facility of comparison:

	Ajmer		Rajasthan	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Cultivators	135,463	119,830	4,205,067	2,850,012
Agricultural labour	8,202	10,237	230,193	163,480
Mining, Quarrying, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and allied activities	6,642	2,393	122,737	48,344
Household industry	28,158	11,314	397,504	200,678

	Ajmer		Rajasthan	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Manufacture other than household industry	15,345	3,153	151,184	20,841
Construction	6,183	849	96,908	12,254
Trade and Commerce	21,739	838	274,232	13,925
Transport, Storage and Communications	22,202	148	116,975	934
Other services	40,516	10,073	546,706	131,908
Non-workers	225,995	307,266	4,422,576	6,149,186

Public Service and other occupations

The 1961 Census report records separate figures only for government servants falling in one category, viz., Administrators and Executive officials. Their numbers in the district are as follows:

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Central Government	210	205	5	210	205	5
State Government	755	748	7	553	547	6
Local Government	87	86	1	87	86	1
Quasi-Government	26	26	0	20	20	0

Separate note of government servants in such occupations as teachers, doctors, engineers, etc., has not been taken in the report. Thus it is not possible to say as to how many persons employed as teachers, doctors, engineers, etc., are in government service.

The total number of public servants in the district is also difficult to estimate for the reasons. It can, however, be said that the number of public servants has increased considerably since 1951, due to the setting up of new offices, educational institutions, etc. and particularly, in view of the increase in the government's developmental activities.

Of late, there has also been an increase in the number of professional men due to establishment or expansion of technical institutions

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Teachers						
Teachers, University	505	374	131	505	374	131
Teachers, Secondary Schools	929	734	194	852	639	193
Teachers, Middle and Primary Schools	2,305	1,770	535	1,399	920	479
Teachers, Nursery and Kinder- garten Schools	4	—	4	4	—	4
Teachers n.e.c.	1,585	1,159	426	869	531	338
TOTAL	5,327	4,037	1,290	3,629	2,484	1,145

Jurists

Judges and Magistrates	11	11	—	9	9	—
Legal Practitioners & Advisers	314	313	1	313	312	1
Law Assistants	1	1	—	1	1	—
Jurists and Legal Technicians n.e.c. (including petition writers)	62	61	1	59	58	1
TOTAL	388	386	2	382	380	2

Social Scientists and Related Workers

Economists	3	3	—	2	2	—
Accountants and Auditors	80	80	—	76	76	—
Personnel Specialists	20	20	—	20	20	—
Labour and Social Welfare Workers	162	141	21	109	108	1
Historians, Archæologists, Political Scientists & Related workers	8	8	—	5	5	—
Social Scientists & Related Workers n.e.c.	3	2	1	3	2	1
TOTAL	276	254	22	215	213	2

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Artists, Writers and Related Workers						
Authors	77	59	18	77	59	18
Editors, Journalists, and Related Workers	30	30	—	30	30	—
Translators, Interpreters and Language Specialists	2	2	—	2	2	—
Painters, Decorators and Commercial Artists	6	6	—	4	4	—
Sculptors and Modellers	1	1	—	1	1	—
Actors & Related Workers	22	22	—	4	4	—
Musicians & Related Workers	928	722	206	272	251	21
Dancers & Related Workers	41	31	10	12	12	—
Artists, Writers and Related Workers, n.e.c.	2	2	—	2	2	—
TOTAL	1,109	875	234	404	365	39
Draughtsmen and Science and Engineering, Technicians						
Draughtsmen	162	162	—	161	161	—
Laboratory Assistants	28	26	2	27	25	2
Science and Engineering Technicians, n.e.c.	17	16	1	17	16	1
TOTAL	207	204	3	205	202	3
Other Professional, Technical and Related Workers						
Ordained Religious Workers	1,126	1,032	94	700	631	69
Non-Ordained Religious Workers	573	502	71	570	499	71
Astrologers, Palmists and Related Workers	120	119	1	94	93	1
Librarians, Archivists and Related Workers	19	19	—	19	19	—
Other Professional, Technical and Related Workers, n.e.c.	89	85	4	5	2	3
TOTAL	1,927	1,757	170	1,388	1,244	144

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females

CLERICAL AND RELATED WORKERS**Book-keepers and Cashiers**Book-keepers, Book-keeping
& Accounts Clerks

1,275 1,273 2 1,194 1,192 2

Cashiers

258 258 — 251 251 —

Ticket Sellers, Ticket Ins-
pectors including Ushers &
Ticket Collectors (exclud-
ing those on moving trans-
port)

29 29 — 29 29 —

TOTAL

1,562 1,560 2 1,474 1,472 2

Stenographers and Typists

Stenographers

104 101 3 104 101 3

Typists

165 155 10 161 151 10

TOTAL

269 256 13 265 252 13

Office Machine OperatorsComputing Clerks and Calcu-
lating Machine Operators

46 46 — 46 46 —

Punch Card Machine

Operators

11 11 — 11 11 —

Office Machine Operators,
n.c.c.

28 28 — 28 28 —

TOTAL

85 85 — 85 85 —

Clerical Workers, Miscellaneous

General & other Ministerial

Assistants & Clerks

7,204 1,127 77 6,816 6,739 77

Misc. Office Workers, inclu-
ding Record Keep-

Muharers despa-

keters & Bir-

office par-

630 628 2 458 456 2

7,334 7,755 79 7,274 7,195 79

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Unskilled Office Workers						
Office Attendants, Ushers, Hall Porters, etc., n.e.c.	3,715	3,488	227	2,777	2,590	187
TOTAL	3,715	3,488	227	2,777	2,590	187

SALES WORKERS**Working Proprietors, Wholesale and Retail Trade**

Working Proprietors, Wholesale Trade	1,085	1,081	4	1,002	998	4
Working Proprietors, Retail Trade	15,651	14,992	659	10,697	10,336	361
TOTAL	16,736	16,073	663	11,699	11,334	365

Insurance and Real Estate Salesmen of Securities and Auctioneers

Agents and Salesmen, Insurance	375	372	3	370	369	1
Agents, Brokers and Sales- men, Real Estate	250	250	—	250	250	—
Brokers & Agents—Securi- ties & Shares	26	22	4	21	21	—
Valuers and Appraisers	13	13	—	13	13	—
Insurance and Real Estate Salesmen, Salesmen of Securities and Service and Auctioneers, n.e.c.	218	217	1	218	217	1
TOTAL	882	874	8	872	870	2

Commercial Travellers and Manufacturers' Agents

Commercial Travellers	2	2	—	2	2	—
Manufacturers' Agents	32	30	2	25	24	1
Commercial Travellers and Manufacturers' Agents n.e.c.	9	9	—	9	9	—
TOTAL	43	41	2	36	35	1

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Salesmen, Shop Assistants and Related Workers						
Salesmen and Shop Assistants						
Wholesale and Retail trade	2,025	2,002	23	1,961	1,939	22
Hawkers, Pedlars and Street Venders	1,359	1,249	110	1,276	1,190	86
Salesmen, Shop Assistants and Related Workers, n.e.c.	63	63	—	62	62	—
TOTAL	3,447	3,314	333	3,299	3,191	108

Money lenders and Pawn Brokers

Money lenders (including Indigenous Bankers)	137	127	10	65	56	9
Pawn Brokers	53	51	2	36	36	—
TOTAL	190	178	12	101	92	9

FARMERS, FISHERMEN, HUNTERS, LOGGERS AND RELATED WORKERS**Farmers, and Farm Managers**

Farm Managers, Inspectors and Overseers	55	53	2	54	52	2
Planters and Plantation Managers	1	1	—	—	—	—
Farmers and Farm Managers, Animal, Birds and Insects Rearing	65	48	17	65	48	17
Farmers and Farm Managers, n.e.c. (Vegetable and Fruit Growers included)	481	481	—	481	481	—
TOTAL	602	583	19	600	581	19

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Farm Workers						
Farm Machinery Operators	2	2	—	—	—	—
Farm Workers, Animals, Birds & Insects Rearing	30,776	22,235	8,541	1,051	838	213
Gardners (Malis)	741	699	42	596	584	12
Tappers (Palm, Rubber trees etc.)						
Plantation labourers	9	8	1	5	4	1
Farm Workers, n.e.c.	56	36	20	50	35	15
TOTAL	31,585	22,981	8,604	1,703	1,462	241

Hunters and Related Workers

Hunters	3	3	—	1	1	—
---------	---	---	---	---	---	---

Fishermen and Related Workers

Fishermen, Deep sea	1	1	—	1	1	—
Fishermen, Inland and Coastal water	2	2	—	2	2	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	3	3	—

Loggers and other Forestry Workers

Forest Rangers and Related Workers	98	98	—	39	39	—
Harvesters and Gatherers of Forest Products including lac (except logs)	30	30	—	30	30	—
Long Fellers & Wood Cutters, Charcoal Burners & Forest Pro- duct Processers	2	1	1	2	1	1
Loggers and other Forestry Workers n.e.c.	3	3	—	2	2	—
TOTAL	220	206	14	143	137	6

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
MINNERS, QUARRYMEN AND RELATED WORKERS						
Miners and Quarrymen						
Miners	36	36	—	1	1	—
Quarrymen	683	611	72	51	51	—
Drillers, Mines and Quarries	6	6	—	—	—	—
Miners & Quarrymen n.e.c.	33	33	—	1	1	—
TOTAL	758	686	72	53	53	—

Well drillers and Related Workers

Well-Drillers, Petroleum and
Gas

1 1 — 1 1 —

Miners, Quarrymen and Related Workers

Miners, Quarrymen and related
Workers, n.e.c.

18 3 15 11 — 11

**WORKERS IN TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION
OCCUPATIONS**

Deck Officers, Engineer Officers and Pilots, Ship

Deck Officers and Pilots, ship

1 1 — 1 1 —

Ship Engineers

13 12 1 13 12 1

TOTAL

14 13 1 14 13 1

Deck and Engine-Room Ratings (Ship) Barge Crews and Boatmen

Deck Ratings (Ship) Barge

Crews and Boatmen

2 2 — 2 2 —

Engine-Room Ratings, Firemen
and Oilers, Ship

1 1 — 1 1 —

TOTAL

3 3 — 3 3 —

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Aircraft Pilots, Navigators and Flight Engineers						
Aircraft Pilots	8	8	—	8	8	—
Drivers and Firemen, Railway Engine						
Drivers	161	161	—	160	160	—
Firemen	129	129	—	128	128	—
TOTAL	290	290	—	288	288	—

Drivers, Road Transport

Tramcar Drivers	46	46	—	46	46	—
Motor Vehicle and Motor Cycle Drivers	915	915	—	782	782	—
Cycle Rickshaw Drivers and Rickshaw Pullers	136	131	5	128	123	5
Animal Drawn Vehicle Drivers	748	747	1	685	685	—
Drivers, Road Transport n.e.c. (including Palki and Doli bearers)	447	444	3	441	441	—
TOTAL	2,292	2,283	9	2,082	2,077	5

Conductors, Guards and Brakesmen (Railway)

Conductors	12	12	—	11	11	—
Guards	33	33	—	33	33	—
Brakesmen	5	5	—	5	5	—
TOTAL	50	50	—	49	49	—

Inspectors, Supervisors, Traffic Controllers and Despatchers Transport

Inspectors, Supervisors and Station Masters	592	591	1	99	99	—
Signalmen and Pointsmen	155	152	3	108	106	2
Traffic Controller	18	18	—	17	17	—
TOTAL	765	761	4	224	222	2

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Leather Cutters, Lasters and Sewers (except gloves and garments) and Related Workers						
Shoe Makers and Shoe Repairers	4,017	3,481	536	1,059	917	142
Cutters, Lasters, Sewers, Footwear and Related Workers	59	24	35	13	8	5
Harness and Saddle Makers	2	2	—	2	2	—
Leather Cutters, Lasters and Sewers, (except gloves, garments) and Related Workers	189	158	31	48	29	19
TOTAL	4,267	3,665	602	1,122	956	166
Furnacemen, Rollers, Drawers, Moulders and Related Metal Making and Training Workers						
Furnacemen, Metal	58	18	40	58	18	40
Annealers, Temperers and Related Heat Treaters	2	2	—	2	2	—
Rolling Mill Operators, Metal	2	2	—	2	2	—
Blacksmiths, Hammersmiths and Forgemen	2,268	1,833	435	1,218	1,071	147
Moulders and Coremakers	1	1	—	—	—	—
Metal Drawers and Extruders	185	185	—	185	185	—
Furnacemen, Rollers, Drawers, Moulders and Related Metal-Making and Training Workers, n.e.c.	62	38	24	62	38	24
TOTAL	2,578	2,079	499	1,527	1,316	211

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Precision Instrument Makers, Watch Makers, Jewellers and Related Workers						
Precision Instrument Makers, Watch and Clock Makers and Repairers	105	105	—	105	105	—
Jewellers, Goldsmiths and Silversmiths	1,440	1,417	23	1,036	1,015	21
Jewellery Engravers	179	179	—	178	178	21
TOTAL	1,724	1,701	23	1,319	1,298	21
Tool Makers, Machinists, Plumbers, Welders, Platersmen and Related Workers						
Fitter-Machinists, Tool-Makers and Machine Tool Setters	2,874	2,864	10	2,661	2,660	1
Machine Tool Operators	481	462	19	479	460	19
Fitter-Assemblers and Machine Erectors (Except Electrical and Precision Instrument Fitters, Assemblers)	687	685	2	681	679	2
Mechanics, Repairman (except Electrical and Precision Instrument, Repair)	1,696	1,693	3	1,609	1,606	3
Sheet Metal Workers	121	118	3	113	113	—
Plumbers and Pipe Fitters	95	94	1	92	91	1
Welders and Flame Cutters	131	130	1	131	130	1
Metal Plate and Structural Metal Workers	77	77	—	77	77	—
Electro-Platers, Dip Platers and Related Workers	23	23	—	23	23	—
Tool-Makers, Machinists, Plumbers, Welders, Platers and Related Workers, n.e.c. (including Metal Engravers other than printing)	338	338	—	336	336	—
TOTAL	6,523	6,484	39	6,202	6,175	27

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Electricians and Related Electrical and Electronics Workers						
Electricians, Electrical Repairmen and Related Electrical Workers	296	295	1	295	294	1
Electrical & Electronics Fitters	220	220	—	218	218	—
Mechanics-Repairmen, Radio and Television	20	19	1	20	19	1
Installers and Repairmen, Telephone and Telegraph	19	18	1	19	18	1
Linemen and Cable Jointers	134	134	—	132	132	—
Electricians and Related Electrical and Electronics Workers, n.e.c.	46	46	—	46	46	—
TOTAL	735	732	3	730	727	3

Carpenters, Joiners, Cabinet Makers, Coopers and Related Workers

Carpenters, Joiners, Pattern Makers (wood)	1,942	1,916	26	1,286	1,275	11
Shipwrights and Boatbuilders	1	1	—	1	1	—
Sawyers and Wood Working Machinists	61	60	1	61	60	1
Coach and Body Builders	3	3	—	3	3	—
Cart Builders and Wheel wrights	13	13	—	13	13	—
Cabinet Makers	103	102	1	103	102	1
Carpenters, Joiners, Cabinet Makers, Cooper and Related Workers, n.e.c.	225	216	9	56	49	7
TOTAL	2,343	2,311	37	1,523	1,503	20

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Painters and Papers Hangers						
Painters and Papers Hangers	564	563	1	564	563	1
Brick Levers, Plasterers and Construction Workers n.e.c.						
Stone Cutters, Stone Carvers and Stone Dressers	393	260	133	359	233	126
Brick Layers, Plasterers, Masons	2,345	2,209	136	1,673	1,560	113
Glaziers	7	7	—	7	7	—
Cement Finishers & Terrazzo and Mosaic Workers	8	6	2	7	6	1
Plut Builders and thatchers	27	17	10	4	4	—
Well Diggers	26	26	—	—	—	—
Bricklayers, Plasterers and Construction Workers n.e.c.	598	437	161	166	99	67
TOTAL	3,404	2,962	442	2,216	1,909	307

Compositors, Printers, Engravers, Book-Binders and Related Workers

Type-setting Machine Operators	7	7	—	5	5	—
Compositors	160	159	1	150	149	1
Proof-readers & Copy Holders	104	104	—	103	103	—
Printers (paper)	157	156	1	148	147	1
Printers (textile)	125	64	61	74	64	10
Photo-litho Operators						
Photo-litho Graphers	36	29	7	36	29	7
Engravers, Etchers and Block Makers (printing)	3	3	—	3	3	—
Stereotypers	1	1	—	1	1	—
Book-Binders	119	118	1	116	115	1
Compositors, Printers, Engra- vers Book-Binders & Related Workers	68	67	1	66	65	1
TOTAL	780	708	72	702	681	21

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Potters, Kilnmen, Glass and Clay Formers and Related Workers						
Furnacemen, Kilnment and Ovenmen	53	39	14	30	20	10
Potters and Related Clay Formers	2,174	1,390	784	276	163	113
Blowers and Benders, Glass	1	1	—	1	1	—
Moulders and Pressers, Glass	1	1	—	1	1	—
Grinders, Cutters, Decorators and Finishers	26	2	24	2	1	1
Pulverisers and Mixers, Cement clay and other ceramics	22	16	6	21	15	6
Potters, Kilnmen, Glass and Clay Formers and Related Workers, n.e.c.	1	—	1	1	—	1
TOTAL	2,278	1,449	829	332	201	131
Millers, Bakers, Brewmasters and Related Food and Beverage Workers						
Millers, Pounders, Huskers & and Parchers, Grains and Related Workers	826	719	107	684	583	101
Crushers and Pressers, Oil seeds	941	621	320	511	272	239
Dairy Workers (non-farm)	4	4	—	4	4	—
Bakers, Confectioners, Candy and Sweetmeat Makers	795	759	36	744	709	35
Makers of Aerated Water and Brewers	7	7	—	7	7	—
Butchers	3	3	—	2	2	—
Millers, Bakers, Brewmasters and Related Food & Beverage Workers, n.e.c.	48	21	27	47	20	27
TOTAL	2,624	2,124	490	1,999	1,597	402

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Chemical and Related Process Workers						
Batch and Continuous Still Operators	3	2	1	3	2	1
Cookers, Roasters and other Heat Treaters, Chemical & Related Processers	74	58	16	74	58	16
Crushers, Millers and Calendrers, Chemical and related process	38	16	22	38	16	22
Paper Pulp Preparers	3	3	—	3	3	—
Paper Makers	18	17	1	18	17	1
Chemical and Related Process Workers n.e.c.	6	6	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	142	102	40	136	96	40

Tobacco Preparers and Product Makers

Curers, Graders and Blenders Tobacco	48	5	43	38	5	43
Cigarette Machine Operators	1	1	—	—	—	—
Cheroot, Cigar and Bidi Makers	2,255	774	1,481	2,090	691	1,399
Snuff and Zarda Makers	21	14	7	5	4	1
Tobacco Preparers and Product Makers, n.e.c.	49	23	26	49	23	26
TOTAL	2,374	817	1,557	2,192	723	1,469

Craftsmen and Production Process Workers n.e.c.

Basketry Weavers & Related Workers	1,322	1,112	210	281	167	114
Type builders, Vulcanisers and Related Rubber Products Makers	11	11	—	11	11	—
Plastics Products Makers	8	8	—	8	8	—

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Tanners, Fellmongers, Pelt Dressers & Related Workers	50	47	3	29	29	—
Photographic Dark Room Workers	5	5	—	5	5	—
Makers of Musical Instruments and Related Workers	31	31	—	31	31	—
Paper Products Makers	41	21	20	39	19	20
Craftsman and Production Process Workers n.e.c.	444	288	156	330	223	107
TOTAL	1,912	1,523	389	734	493	241
Testers, Packers, Sorters and Related Workers						
Checkers, Testers, Sorters, Weighers and Counters	60	60	—	51	51	—
Packers, Labellers and Related Workers	42	42	—	38	38	—
TOTAL	102	102	—	89	89	—
Stationary, Engine and Excavating and Lifting Equipment Operators and Related Workers						
Operators, Stationary Engines, Related Equipment	536	535	1	527	526	1
Boilermen and Firemen	120	120	—	86	86	—
Crane and Hoist Operators	19	19	—	19	19	—
Riggers and cable splicers	1	—	1	—	—	—
Operators of Earth-moving and other construction Machinery n.e.c.	14	14	—	14	14	—
Oilers and Greasers, Stationery Engines, Motor Vehicles and Related Equipment	116	116	—	99	99	—
Stationery Engine and Excavating and Lifting Equipment Operators and Related Workers n.e.c.	194	192	2	194	192	2
TOTAL	1,000	996	4	939	936	3

	Persons	Total Workers		Urban		
		Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Labourers n.e.c.						
Loaders and unloaders	1,108	1,018	90	1,095	1,007	88
Labourers n.e.c.	20,345	15,346	4,999	11,456	9,864	1,592
TOTAL	21,453	16,364	5,089	12,551	10,871	1,680

SERVICE, SPORT AND RECREATION WORKERS

Fire Fighters, Policemen, Guards and Related Workers

Fire Fighters and Related Workers

Police Constables, Investigators and Related Workers

Customs Examiners, Patrolers and Related Workers

Watchmen & Chowkidars

Fire Fighters, Policemen, Guards & Related Workers n.e.c.

TOTAL

21	21	—	21	21	—
2,947	2,928	19	2,534	2,516	18
18	18	—	17	17	—
1,191	1,152	39	879	846	33
162	162	—	29	29	—
4,339	4,281	58	3,400	3,429	51

House-keepers, Cooks, Maids and Related Workers

House-keepers, Matrons, Stewards (Domestic and Institutional)

Cooks, Cook Bearers (Domestic and Institutional)

Butlers, Bearers, Waiters, Maids and other servants (Domestic)

Ayas, Nurse-maids

House-keepers, Cooks, Maids and Related Workers, n.e.c.

TOTAL

21	11	10	20	10	10
1,094	809	285	1,012	736	256
1,815	1,305	510	1,573	1,109	462
1	1	—	1	1	—
4	4	—	3	3	—
2,935	2,130	805	2,609	1,879	730

	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females

Waiters, Bartenders and Related Workers

Waiters, Bartenders and
Related Workers (Institu-
tional)

377	368	9	376	367	9
-----	-----	---	-----	-----	---

Building Caretakers, Cleaners and Related Workers

Buildings caretakers

201	154	47	125	94	31
-----	-----	----	-----	----	----

Cleaners, Sweepers and
Watchmen

4,529	2,833	1,696	3,329	2,336	993
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TOTAL

4,730	2,987	1,743	3,454	2,430	1,024
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Barbers, Hairdressers, Beauticians and Related Workers

Barbers, Hairdressers, Beauti-
cians and Related Workers

1,132	1,123	9	622	620	2
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Launderers, Dry Cleaners and Pressers

Launders, Washermen and
Dhobies

1,057	720	337	967	683	284
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Dry-cleaners and Pressers

12	12	—	12	12	—
----	----	---	----	----	---

TOTAL

1,069	732	337	979	695	284
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Athletes, Sportsmen and Related Workers

Athletes, Sportsmen and
Related Workers

4	4	—	3	3	—
---	---	---	---	---	---

Photographers and Related Camera Operators

Movie Camera Operators

9	9	—	9	9	—
---	---	---	---	---	---

Other Photographers

40	39	1	39	38	1
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TOTAL

49	48	1	48	47	1
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	Total Workers					
	Total			Urban		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
Service, Sport and Recreation Workers n.e.c.						
Embalmers and Undertakers	1	1	—	1	1	—
Service, Sport and Recreation Workers, n.e.c.	10	4	6	9	3	6
TOTAL	11	5	6	10	4	6

WORKERS NOT CLASSIFIABLE BY OCCUPATION

Workers reporting Occupation
unidentifiable or unclassi-
fiable

1,116 1,066 50 1,063 1,015 48

Workers not reporting occupation

Workers not reporting
occupation

25 18 7 23 16 7

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

Livelihood Pattern

Ajmer is industrially one of the most advanced districts of Rajasthan, though agriculture is still the principal occupation. Consequently, the number of persons depending upon it for their livelihood, is considerably lower than what it is in many other districts.

1951 Census

In 1951 Census, 45.4 per cent of the people were shown to be dependent directly or indirectly upon agriculture for their livelihood. The percentage was 43.4 excluding absentee landlords. Amongst the agriculturists the largest percentage (37.5) was that of cultivators who wholly or mainly owned the land. Cultivators of unowned land and their dependents came next with 3.1 per cent, cultivating labourers and non-cultivating owners formed 2.8 and 2 per cent respectively.

The non-agricultural category forming 54.6 per cent, of the population was distributed in the following classes:—

A great majority depended upon other services and miscellaneous sources, forming 19.5 per cent of the general population. Industrialists formed 19.3 per cent and traders 12.5 per cent. Transport industry supported 3.3 per cent of the total population.

Of the rural population, the agricultural classes formed 77.3 per cent and the non-agricultural classes, 22.7 per cent. Out of the agricultural category, the cultivators of land wholly or mainly owned and their dependents formed 64.3 per cent. Cultivators of unowned land and their dependants formed 5.1 per cent of the total population. Cultivating labourers and non-cultivating owners with their dependants formed 4.7 and 3.2 per cent respectively. Of the non-agricultural category in rural areas, the largest number belonged to those depending upon industry (10.6 per cent), next came those who derived their means of livelihood from other services and miscellaneous sources (7.6 per cent), followed by commerce (3.8 per cent) and the transport industry (0.7 per cent). In the urban areas, the agricultural classes formed 2.9 per cent and the non-agricultural classes, 97.1 per cent. Amongst the agricultural classes, the owner cultivators formed 1.7 per cent, cultivators

of unowned land came next with 0.6 per cent, while cultivating labourers and non-cultivating owners formed 0.2 and 0.4 per cent respectively. The non-agricultural population of urban areas was distributed in following classes:—(i) other services and miscellaneous sources (35.3 per cent), (ii) industrialists (30.9 per cent), (iii) commerce (24 per cent) and (iv) transport (6.9 per cent).

1961 CENSUS—The livelihood pattern according to the Census of 1961 is shown in the following table:

Occupational Category	Rural		Urban		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1. Cultivator	1,32,675	1,17,843	2,788	1,987	1,35,463	1,19,830
2. Agricultural Labour	7,626	9,800	576	437	8,202	10,237
3. Mining Quarrying Livestock, Forstry, Fishing, Hunting, Plantations, Orchards and allied activities	5,732	2,191	911	202	6,683	2,393
4. Household industry	25,009	9,401	3,149	1,913	25,158	11,314
5. Manufacture other than household industry	2,525	397	12,820	2,756	15,345	3,153
6. Construction	1,784	282	4,399	567	6,183	849
7. Trade and Commerce	5,040	335	16,699	503	21,739	838
8. Transport, Storage & Communication	1,841	12	20,361	136	22,202	148
9. Other services	11,158	4,700	29,358	5,373	40,516	10,073
10. Non Workers	1,22,468	1,50,121	1,03,527	1,57,145	2,25,995	3,07,266

ECONOMIC STATUS—According to the 1951 Census amongst owner cultivators 41.1 per cent are self-supporting, 21.8 per cent are earning dependants and 37.1 per cent are non-earning dependants. Of the cultivators of unowned land, 43.6 per cent are self-supporting, 18.7 earning dependants and 37.7 per cent are non-earning dependants. Amongst the cultivating labourers 56.6 per cent are self-supporting, 12.4 earning dependants and 32.05 per cent are non-earning dependants. Out of the non-cultivating owners of land and those receiving agricultural rent, 38.1 per cent are self-supporting, 12 earning dependants and 49.9 per cent are non-earning dependants. Of those employed in industries (i.e., production other than cultivation) 33.9 per cent are self-supporting, 8.9 per cent earning dependants and 57.2 per cent non-earning dependants. Amongst traders (i.e., commercial class) 26.6 per cent are self-supporting, 3.7 per cent are earning dependants and 69.7 per cent non-earning dependants. Among those engaged in transport industry, 27.3 per cent are self-supporting, 3.1 per cent earning dependants and 69.6 per cent non-earning dependants. Out of those persons whose means of livelihood is other services and miscellaneous sources, 34.5 per cent are self-supporting, 5.1 earning dependants and 60.4 per cent non-earning dependants.

Some secondary occupations to supplement their income is followed by 11.8 per cent of the owner cultivators, 32.1 per cent of the cultivators of unowned land, 21.5 per cent of the cultivating labourers and 27.4 per cent of the non-cultivating owners. Supplementary occupation figures for non-agricultural population are, industries 15.5 per cent, other services and miscellaneous sources 10, commerce 7.1 and transport 4.8 per cent.

Amongst industrialists 50.8 per cent are independent workers, 13.7 per cent employers and employees, 35.5 per cent. Sixty-six per cent of traders are independent workers, 19 per cent employers and 15 per cent employees. Similarly, of those engaged in transport, 26.2 per cent are independent workers, 0.2 per cent employers and 73.6 per cent employees. In other services and miscellaneous sources 36.3 are independent workers, 3.4 per cent employers and 60.3 per cent employees.

Economically inactive persons can be grouped into two categories: (a) those who earn their livelihood without any activity e.g., pensioners, stipend holders, receivers of rent from land or buildings or of interest, and (b) those whose activities are uneconomic in their nature e.g., beggars, prostitutes etc. The number of such persons in this district is 2,279 (1,033 males and 1,246 females) forming 0.3 per cent of the total population of the district.

Prices

The *Imperial Gazetteer of India* (Vol. I, second edition, London, 1885, pp. 125-6) gives the following rates as being prevalent in the district, in 1873:—best rice 4 seers per rupee; common rice 8 seers per rupee; barley 20 seers per rupee and wheat 15 seers per rupee. In 1881 the average prices in the district were: best rice $7\frac{1}{2}$ seers per rupee, wheat 17 seers, flour $13\frac{1}{2}$ seers, barley 28 seers, urd 14 seers, cotton $2\frac{1}{4}$ seers, sugar $2\frac{1}{2}$ seers, ghee $1\frac{3}{4}$ seers, firewood $3\frac{1}{4}$ seers, tobacco $1\frac{1}{2}$ seers and salt $11\frac{1}{4}$ seers.

The value of the rupee at the turn of the century can be gauged from the fact that in 1902-03 wheat sold at 12 seers and 11 *chhataks* per rupee, barley 16 seers 11 *chhataks*, jowar 17 seers 13 *chhataks*, bajra 16 seers 6 *chhataks* and maize 18 seers $7\frac{1}{2}$ *chhataks*, in Ajmer tahsil.

The trend of average market retail prices of agricultural commodities in Ajmer State as given in the *Agricultural Statistics, Ajmer State, 1938-39 to 1953-54*, issued by the Board of Economic Inquiry, State of Ajmer, Ajmer (p. 159), is shown in the table below:

(Rupees per maund)

Year	Wheat	Barley	Jowar	Bajra	Maize	Rice	Gram
1938	3.5	2.6	2.8	3.3	2.7	6.8	3.0
1939	3.7	3.0	3.1	3.8	3.0	7.8	3.9
1940	4.2	3.4	3.2	3.7	4.0	10.3	3.8
1941	4.7	2.8	3.5	3.0	2.6	11.0	3.9
1942	6.4	4.7	5.6	5.7	5.8	24.0	6.6
1943	10.8	7.8	8.1	8.6	8.7	29.8	9.2
1944	10.0	6.0	7.2	8.4	7.8	32.5	6.7
1945	10.3	6.9	6.9	7.8	7.7	33.9	8.0
1946	10.9	9.2	11.9	10.2	10.9	40.3	9.4
1947	14.0	9.4	9.5	11.6	11.2	39.1	9.9
1948	13.8	10.7	13.3	15.4	14.5	52.8	10.1
1949	18.6	14.2	14.1	19.9	16.8	59.0	10.9
1950	20.3	14.8	16.0	15.7	19.0	60.0	12.7
1951	19.6	17.4	14.0	17.3	16.4	50.0	16.9
1952	18.1	15.6	14.3	18.1	16.2	—	19.2
1953	18.0	10.4	11.8	12.9	10.8	—	15.9
1954	15.0	8.5	8.2	9.1	8.5	—	11.1

The same trend in term of index numbers on the basis of 1939 prices as given on pp. 176-77 of the publication quoted for the previous table shows steep rise in food grain prices, the highest being in the case of wheat followed by maize, gram, barley, jowar and bajra in that order. The commodities to register a fall in prices during the war as compared to 1939 were: (index number shown in brackets) maize (90.7 in 1941), barley (93.3 in 1941) and bajra (98.2 in 1940 and 78.9 in 1941). The position is shown below:

Price Index numbers of agricultural Commodities, Ajmer

(Base year 1939=100)

Year	Wheat	Barley	Gram	Maize	Bajra	Jowar
1939	100	100	100	100	100	100
1940	115.2	117.0	100.8	139.3	98.2	110.6
1941	128.1	93.3	104.1	90.7	78.9	117.9
1942	173.3	157.1	167.8	192.0	150.2	174.4
1943	290.9	260.9	244.4	301.7	227.5	265.2
1944	265.3	199.6	167.5	257.2	222.0	223.7
1945	276.4	233.0	201.2	258.8	208.7	222.3
1946	296.3	315.5	242.0	369.8	272.4	401.3
1947	385.2	322.3	264.1	378.3	311.1	309.4
1948	374.8	363.1	266.3	499.7	412.7	443.6
1949	510.8	476.3	280.3	567.6	511.9	471.2
1950	564.0	500.9	323.5	694.8	400.0	529.6
1951	557.9	601.6	448.5	587.1	444.9	479.0
1952	448.8	488.0	445.9	484.4	463.2	406.3
1953	443.4	323.8	369.7	322.6	331.4	337.6
1954	407.0	290.5	290.7	294.1	241.8	271.3

However, according to the following index number for these commodities constructed on the basis of 1946 prices, we find that in 1953, the prices of wheat (95.07), jowar (78.14) and maize (76.76) declined as compared to 1946 whereas those of barley (117.4), gram (177.5) and bajra (125.5) rose. This would be clear from the table given below:

Index number of food prices (1946=100)¹

(Rupees per maund)

Year	Wheat	Barley	Gram	Bajra	Jowar	Maize
1946	100	100	100	100	100	100
1947	96.07	102.2	120.2	108.6	62.91	77.7
1948	106.03	117.4	116.9	151.0	88.08	102.1
1949	163.08	190.2	146.1	195.1	93.37	118.3
1950	137.08	100.9	140.5	153.9	105.3	133.9
1951	149.06	189.1	193.2	169.6	92.70	115.4
1952	95.28	169.5	215.7	176.5	94.04	114.1
1953	96.07	117.4	177.5	125.5	78.14	76.76

Price movement in essential food grains for some recent years on the basis of prices at district headquarters, is shown below:

Retail prices of foodgrains (Average)²

(Rupees per maund)

Year	Wheat	Barley	Gram	Jowar	Bajra	Maize
1957	17.53	11.71	11.71	15.07	15.63	14.29
1958	19.22	12.53	13.03	13.11	13.98	12.98
1959	19.72	13.83	14.25	14.03	15.20	13.80
1960	19.67	13.71	14.69	15.01	13.84	13.78

The prices of wheat, barley and gram showed an upward trend while those of jowar, bajra and maize, declined. The greatest rise of about 25 per cent was in the case of gram, a cereal which does not form part of the staple food grains. Wheat rose by about 11 per cent and barley by 19 per cent approximately.

1. Source : Statistical Abstract, State of Ajmer, 1952-53, Board of Economic Inquiry, State of Ajmer, Ajmer, p. 105.

2. Source : Statistical Abstract Rajasthan, 1961, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. 154.

COST OF LIVING—The Consumer's General Price Index Numbers for working classes at Ajmer and Beawar as constructed by the office of the Director, Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, show that as compared to 1949, general cost of living at Ajmer, in 1960, had risen by 7 per cent. During 1956 and 1957 it was lower than the 1949 level by 5 and 1 per cent respectively. The upward trend started from 1958 continued till 1960 up to which year figures are available. The over all rise since 1956 is of the order of 12 points. A similar trend is discernable in Beawar where the aggregate increase in the cost of living has been 12 points (from 91 in 1956 to 103 in 1960).

These indices are shown in the table below:

Consumer's General Price Index Number for working class Ajmer and Beawar¹

Year	Ajmer (base shifted to 1949=100)					Beawar (base year ending July 1952=100)						
	Food	Fuel & lighting	Clothing bedding & footwear	House rent	Miscellaneous	General	Food	Fuel & lighting	Clothing bedding & footwear	House rent	Misc. General	
1956	94	88	93	100	102	95	82	147	104	100	96	91
1957	97	89	105	100	107	99	85	149	113	100	101	95
1958	104	93	96	100	103	103	90	164	118	100	105	100
1959	109	100	94	100	106	106	97	166	109	100	108	105
1960	109	109	103	100	107	107	94	163	118	100	104	103

1. Source : *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1961, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. 152.

Looking to variations in the prices of individual items on the index number during the period 1956-60, we find that greatest rise has been in the case of fuel and lighting at both places; it rose at Ajmer by 21 points and at Beawar by 16 points. House rent has been static throughout the period. Food prices rose by 15 points at Ajmer and by 12 points at Beawar. At Beawar, however, prices of clothing, bedding and footwear articles showed greater rise, i.e. 14 points, than at Ajmer where these commodities rose by 10 points. The price of miscellaneous articles rose by 5 points at Ajmer and by 8 points at Beawar.

WAGES—W.W. Hunter in the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* (Vol. I, II Edition, London, 1885, p. 125), observed that "Wages have increased considerably of late years. In 1850, coolies received 2½ d. per diem, in 1881 they obtained 6 d; in 1850, the wages for skilled labour were 6 d. per diem, in 1881 they had risen to 1 sh. The period of daily labour has also decreased meanwhile from 10 to 8 hours."

Later, in 1904, *Ajmer-Merwara Gazetteer* (Rajputana District Gazetteer, 1904, Vol. I-A, p. 55), recorded: "The average daily wage of an unskilled labourer is 2 annas in rural areas and between 2 and 4 annas in urban areas. The wages of unskilled labour have not changed since 1881. They are usually paid in cash, but agricultural labourers are sometimes paid in kind, receiving grain of the equivalent value of the cash payment. During the three famine years ending in 1901, the dominating money wage has been that paid on the government relief works, which is scientifically calculated and gives the worker enough to live on, and probably when a family is on the works, a margin for saving. In the towns, masons, blacksmiths and carpenters get an average wage of 4 to 8 annas a day, as against 5¼ to 10⅔ and 5¼ to 8 annas in 1881 and 1891 respectively. The Railway Locomotive and Carriage and Wagon Shops in Ajmer give employment to a large number of skilled hands. In the Locomotive Shops the maximum rates of their wages vary from Rs. 7.8 per day, in the case of European fitters to 5 annas a day in the case of strikers, the minimum varying from Rs. 2 to 2 annas. In the Carriage and Wagon Shops the daily wage varies from a maximum of Rs. 2.12 to 3 annas a day, the minimum being from Rs. 1 to 2 annas according to the class of labour. The maximum daily wage paid in the Krishna Cotton Mills at Beawar is Rs. 1.4, and minimum is 1½ annas. In rural areas carpenters, blacksmiths, leather makers and other village servants get allowance of grain from the villagers in return for their services. Thus carpenters, potters and blacksmiths are given 15 seers of grain per plough at each harvest. If a cultivator owns a well with a Persian wheel, he has to give 30 seers, owing to the greater amount of

labour employed on its repairs. At the reaping time, they are given in addition, by each cultivator, a sheaf of corn weighing about 5 seers. When the seed is being sown, they receive a contribution of 2 seers of seed grain from each cultivator. If, however, a carpenter prepares a new plough for a landholder, he is given 2 annas extra for his labour. If he makes a new cart, he is paid separately for it, or is fed for a time in lieu of payment. Tanners or *balais*, for repairing shoes and assisting in the storage of manure, get from 5 seers to 20 seers of grain per harvest from each household. If they have to supply new shoes and other small leather articles, the allowance per harvest is from 20 seers to a maund. If a new leather bucket is prepared, the cultivator has to feed the tanner in addition. The food allowance, consisting of a mixture of wheat, *ghi* and *gur* is called *lash*. Barbers are given 10 seers of grain per harvest for every adult male in the village. Drummers (*dholis*) get a share of grain per house per harvest, and the priests receive a smaller allowance. In addition, all are given something at the *Holi* and *Dewali* festivals and upon marriage occasions.

“As wages in rural areas are to so large an extent paid in kind, they have not been much affected by the price of food grains. There has been no extension of the railway system since 1879, nor have factory and mining industries developed so as to affect wages. Times of scarcity and consequent temporary rises in prices have not resulted generally in increase of wages. The ordinary work available decreases, while the demand for it increases. The labourer is willing to accept his normal or even a decreased money wage in order to secure employment at all. As already noticed, in such times the price paid for labour on Government relief works, as representing the subsistence minimum, becomes the dominating wage. Only the wages of domestic servants in towns have risen considerably of late years.”

At present, wages in the registered part of industrial sector are fixed by legislation. Industrial wages are discussed in Chapter V.

RURAL WAGES—Agricultural wages in 1938-39 and in 1949-50 are shown in the table below:

Agricultural Wages (Rs. as. ps.)

Operation	1938-39			1949-50		
	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children
Ploughing	0-3-0	—	—	1-0-5	—	—
Embanking	0-3-9	0-2-9	0-2-1	1-4-0	0-13-4	0-11-4
Harrowing	0-3-0	0-2-0	0-2-0	1-0-0	0-8-0	0-8-0
Manuring	0-2-11	0-2-4	0-2-1	1-0-0	0-10-3	0-9-7
Sowing	0-3-0	—	—	1-0-0	—	—
Transplanting	0-2-7	0-2-1	0-2-0	0-13-4	0-8-5	0-8-0
Weeding	0-2-9	0-2-7	0-2-7	0-11-11	0-11-0	0-11-0
Irrigating	0-3-0	0-2-3	0-2-0	1-0-0	0-11-2	0-8-10
Harvesting	0-2-7	0-2-0	0-2-0	0-13-9	0-8-11	0-7-10
Threshing	0-2-7	0-2-2	0-2-0	0-13-1	0-8-9	0-8-4

Representing this in term of index numbers with 1938-39 as the base year, we find that there has been a more than 500 per cent rise for men in all agricultural operations and 400 per cent rise for women and children. This is shown in the table given below:

Index Number of agricultural wages, 1949-50)

(1938-39 = 100)

Operation	Men	Women	Children
Ploughing	547.2	—	—
Embanking	533.3	484.8	475.0
Harrowing	533.3	400.0	400.0
Manuring	548.6	439.3	460.0
Sowing	533.3	—	—
Transplanting	516.1	404.0	400.0
Weeding	433.3	425.8	425.8
Irrigating	533.3	496.3	441.7
Harvesting	532.3	445.8	391.7
Threshing	506.5	403.8	416.7

In December, 1951 the Chief Commissioner of Ajmer State fixed the minimum wages for agricultural labour as under and also limited the working day to eight hours excluding rest and other intervals:

Minimum rates of wages (Rs. as. ps.)

Type of work	Adults	Children
Ploughing	1—0—0	—
Embanking (digging)	1—0—0	—
Sowing	1—0—0	—
Irrigation (working at the well)	1—0—0	—
Embanking (carrying)	0—12—0	0—8—0
Harrowing	0—12—0	0—8—0
Manuring	0—12—0	0—8—0
Transplanting	0—12—0	0—8—0
Weeding	0—12—0	0—8—0
Harvesting	0—12—0	0—8—0
Threshing	0—12—0	0—8—0
Picking in the field	0—12—0	0—0—0
Winnowing	0—12—0	0—8—0
Any other agricultural work not specified above	0—12—0	0—8—0

Standard of Living

Writing in 1904, Major C. C. Watson, made following observations on the standard of living of people of Ajmer-Merwara:—"The material condition of the urban population is generally satisfactory. That it has been so little affected by the recent famine is due to the railway. The standard of comfort among the well-to-do has been gradually rising and European articles such as mineral waters and ice are widely used. Among the richer classes, an increased use of articles of dress of European fashion is also to be observed. If a middle-class clerk be taken as an example, it is seen that he has sufficient income to enable him to live with comfort in a town. If he is in the service of

Government, he has a pension to look forward to, and if in that of the Railway, his Provident Fund Savings. He can afford to dress well, to diet himself liberally and generally to give his sons an English education. In rural areas, on the other hand, the effects of the famine are shown in a perceptible falling-off in the standard of living. The quantity of the daily food has diminished, the stores of ornaments and household vessels are depleted, and smaller amounts are spent on clothing. The less initial cost has caused many to clothe themselves in the cheap and flimsy foreign cottons rather than in the stronger reza cloths of local manufacture. Little margin is left for luxuries such, as liquor and opium. Expenses on social ceremonies have been curtailed considerably, rather from stern necessity than from natural habits of thrift. On the other hand, many conveniences are available which were unknown to previous generations, and matches, kerosine oil and cheap cloths from Lancashire or Bombay mills are procurable in every substantial village. Indebtedness has increased largely among the cultivators, but the difficulty of recovering debt on the part of the money-lenders has recently led to a contraction of credit. Liberal grants of takavi by Government have tended to rectify the situation; much revenue has been suspended and much remitted."

During the 58 years since Major Watson recorded his observation, the general standard of living of the average town dweller has made little progress. In fact, due to the phenomenal rise in prices during and after the war, those in the fixed income groups have become worse off than they were 25 years ago. Very few clerks can afford the comforts they could in Watson's time, and a very large portion of the income is spent on the basic necessities of food, clothing and shelter. At the same time, the years have brought about changes in fashion. Western-type clothes have become popular among men, furnishings and decorations have changed and the consumption pattern has altered with the introduction of a variety of consumer goods. In the rural areas, the agriculturists are better off than before due to the new tenancy laws and the benefits brought about by the community development programme. As they are primary producers, the general rise in prices has not affected them to the extent it has affected the fixed wage earners.

No comprehensive family budget survey has yet been completed in the urban areas. Some surveys are now in progress by the National Sample Survey Organization of the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India. The Statistician of the Directorate of Economic and Industrial Surveys, Government of Rajasthan, has also collected some data which is at present being processed. Fresh and upto-date information about

the consumption and expenditure of the rural and urban population will come to light when results of these surveys are known.

However, a survey of 15 villages selected by random sampling to study the rural consumption pattern, was conducted during the 1941 Census operations. It was claimed to be the first ever survey of its kind and showed that except for an insignificant minority, the rest of the population was vegetarian either by custom or by necessity, a fact which, in any case, needed no survey to be established. The produce of the land invariably dictated the dietary habits of the people. The poorer classes had little or no vegetables to eat with the *chapaties* which formed an essential part of all the meals the villager took. Butter-milk was about the only milk produce consumed. The survey also showed that barley was consumed on a very large scale (throughout the year). It accounted for 41.2 per cent of the quantity of all the food grains consumed. A further analysis showed that 11.7 per cent of this quantity was grown by the consumers themselves and 29.5 per cent had to be purchased from the market. Other cereals, arranged in order of the quantities consumed, were maize, wheat, *bajra* and *jowar*. Taking all the cereals together, it was seen that only 26 per cent of the quantity consumed in the surveyed villages, was produced locally, the rest (74 per cent) had to be purchased.

On the basis of the results of the sample survey, the total requirement of cereals for the entire rural population of Ajmer-Merwara was estimated at 27,33,000 maunds with a margin of error of 54,000 maunds. The proprietors and the cultivating families who formed 75.1 per cent of the total number of families, themselves required 22,58,679 maunds, i.e., 82.7 per cent of the total requirement. As against the producers' own need of about 22.6 lakh maunds, the production was estimated to be only 8.7 lakh maunds or 32 per cent of the total demand. This is, perhaps, too dismal a picture and represented, one hopes, only a passing phase as the survey was taken immediately after the ravages of one of the most severe famines of Ajmer-Merwara.

It was also shown that 79 per cent of the rural families consumed barley and 72 per cent maize. Hence at least 50 per cent must have been consuming both. Wheat was consumed by 37 per cent, *bajra* by 31 per cent and *jawar* by 72 per cent of the families.

According to this survey the average size of the agriculturist family consisted of 4.98 persons and that of non-agriculturists 3.54 persons.

The consumption per adult male per annum, in maunds, worked out to 9.17 for the agriculturist and 7.71 for the non-agriculturist. Projecting these estimates in terms of money the following figures were obtained.

Food consumption—Age-Sex differences

Category	Food consumption per annum in Rs.	Sampling error
Adult male (14 years and above)	36.44	1.56
Adult female (14 years and above)	28.71	1.66
Child aged 10, 11, 12 and 13 years	24.64	2.00
Child aged 4 to 9 years	17.20	2.21
Infant aged 0-3	12.20	2.21
Average constant expenditure per family	10.47	2.92

A consumption scale constructed on the basis of figures obtained, is given in the following table. The cost of food consumption of an adult is taken as unity and the cost of food consumption in the various groups is shown as a fraction of the unity. The scale of optimum consumption as worked out by Akroyd and published in Government of India's Health Bulletin No. 23, is given alongside for purpose of comparison.

Consumption Unit Scale

Category	Consumption Scale	Akroyd's Scale
Adult Male	1	1
Adult Female	0.79	0.8
Child aged 10 to 13 years	0.68	0.74
Child aged 4 to 9 years	0.47	0.50
Infant aged 0 to 4 years	0.33	0.26

It would be observed from the above table that while the male adult was fairly well fed, the adult female and children between the ages of 4 and 13 years were generally undernourished¹.

Earlier in 1927-28 also, an attempt was made by the Banking Enquiry Committee to arrive at certain conclusions regarding consumption expenditure. But as their conclusions were mostly based on assumption, it would be worthwhile to take them with caution. Taking 1921 Census figures for population and the average size of the family as 4.22 (composed of one male, one female and 2.2 children), the total need for the rural population was calculated to be 22,22,850 maunds at the rate of 1 seer per day per adult and half a seer per day per child. The drawbacks of this survey were that the size of the family and average consumption were arbitrarily assumed. Also, the size of agricultural and non-agricultural families and their rates of food consumption were taken to be the same, an assumption which was disproved by the latter enquiry.

EMPLOYMENT—The 1961 Census figures show that agriculture is principal occupation in the district, employing 2,55,293 persons (1,35,463 males and 1,19,830 females) as cultivators and 18,439 (8,202 males and 10,237 females) as agricultural labour. Other occupations have also been dealt with earlier in this chapter.

The Directorate of Employment of the Government of Rajasthan has undertaken systematic study of the employment market in the district for the period January-March, 1960 covering 49,308 workers in 105 public sector establishments and 11,947 workers in 556 private sector establishments. A very great majority of the employers (98.1 per cent from public sector and 97.5 per cent from private sector) responded to the survey.

The survey estimated the working population of the district to be 4.88 lakh of whom a total of 1.90 lakh are non-agricultural workers. Out of non-agricultural workers 66,000 are estimated to be employees in industry and services. The study covered all industrial establishments in private sector which employed 5 or more persons and all establishments in the public sector. It revealed a total employment of 0.61 lakh at the end of March, 1960 of whom 0.49 lakh were in the public sector and 0.12 lakh in the private sector.

1. The foregoing discussing is based on *Report on An Economic Survey by Random Sampling of the Rural Areas of Ajmer Merwara. Census of Rajputana and Ajmer-Merwara, Vol. XXIV, Part IV, 1911.*

According to the survey, rural population depends mainly on agriculture and allied occupations for livelihood and the non-agricultural population on service in the government, railways, banks, insurance companies, commercial houses and industries. Most of the employment opportunities for the non-agricultural classes are concentrated at Ajmer which has big railway offices and workshops and is otherwise also a thriving city and Beawar which has three textile mills and a host of small units engaged in subsidiary industries.

There were, during the survey, 5,193 persons on the live register of the Ajmer employment exchange of whom the great majority of 59.6 per cent sought unskilled work, 23.2 per cent clerical jobs, 8.3 per cent professional and technical jobs, 8.8 per cent craft and the remaining 0.1 per cent, various other white-collar jobs.

A total of 2,213 persons entered the employment market during the quarter covered by the survey of whom 57 per cent were fresh entrants, 10.4 per cent came from services, 9.7 from transport, storage and communications, 8.9 from agriculture, 6.2 from construction, 3.9 from manufactures, 2.3 from electricity, gas, etc., 1.5 per cent from trade and commerce and 0.1 per cent from mines and quarrying.

A peep into the occupational pattern of 11,947 employees in private sector, showed that 35.9 per cent were craftsmen, 34.3 per cent unskilled workers, 10.9 per cent clerical and sales workers, 11.5 per cent professional and technical personnel, 5 per cent administrative and executive workers and 2.4 per cent other skilled workers. The percentage of unskilled workers in public sector was higher (39.4 per cent) than craftsmen and other skilled workers (33.8 per cent). Other categories were clerical and sales workers (13.8 per cent), professional and technical personnel (10. per cent), and administrative and executive personnel (3 per cent).

As to employment opportunities, the study showed existing demand and improvement prospects for skilled and technical personnel like civil engineers (including overseers), mining engineers, doctors, nurses, midwives, health visitors, pharmacists, pharma-technicians, medical and health technicians, laboratory assistants, higher administrative and supervisory personnel, stenographers, typists, salesmen, craftsmen and other skilled workers, blacksmiths, moulders, fitters, metal workers, electricians, boilermen and firemen. It warns that gloomy prospects are ahead for those seeking clerical jobs for which the present ratio of success is 1

to 3 and unskilled office workers like pcons or daftaris in whose case at present, one out of eight gets a job. Shortages were often felt in the supply of science graduates especially in agriculture, librarians, doctors, nurses, sanitary inspectors, midwives, lady health visitors, trained teachers, fitters, lathe men and compositors.

There is an Employment Exchange at Ajmer. The details about the applicants registered etc., are given below:

Year	No. of applicants Legis-tered during the year	No. of applicants placed during the year	No. of applica-nts on the live register at the end of the year	No. of va-cancies noti-fied during the year	Monthly avo-rage No. em-ployers using the employ-ment exchange
1957	9,375	856	4,367	1,289	37
1958	8,897	969	4,694	1,079	36
1959	11,446	1,556	5,571	1,697	43
1960	12,445	1,545	5,349	1,846	39
1961	13,651	1,589	5,614	1,885	404

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Community Development

The community development programme was started in the district in 1952 with the opening of a development block in Pisangan. Since then, the programme has steadily expanded so that the entire rural population has now been covered. In October, 1959, the community development programme was merged into the wider scheme of democratic decentralization, the main object of which is to enable the people to draw up and implement development schemes for their own areas. The main features of this programme have been described elsewhere in this volume.

There are 8 panchayat samitis in the district, viz., Arain, Bhinai, Jawaja, Kekri, Kishangarh, Masuda, Pisangan and Srinagar. At the end of 1961, six of these, viz., Jawaja, Kishangarh, Kekri, Masuda, Pisangan and Srinagar were in the second stage of block development, Bhinai in the 1st stage and Arain in pre-extension stage. Details about these are given in the chapter on Local Self Government.

Planning

During the First Plan, development activities were undertaken in all spheres. Ajmer, at that time, was a separate state and as such had

a plan independent of Rajasthan. The first Five Year Plan of Ajmer state had a total provision of Rs. 182 lakhs for all sectors combined, out of which a total of Rs. 154.54 lakhs had been spent upto the end of the plan. Another sum of Rs. 164.74 lakhs was spent on central schemes in the state of Ajmer. During the First Plan great emphasis was laid on agriculture and the efforts can be said to have been properly rewarded as the production of food grains rose by more than 92½ per cent (from 40 thousand tons in 1950-51 to 77 thousand tons in 1955). An increase of 25 per cent was achieved in the irrigated area during the same period. The following table shows achieved outlay in the various sectors during the plan as also a sectorwise break-up of expenditure on central schemes¹:

		Rs. in lakhs
(A) State Schemes		
1. Agriculture	..	46.49
2. Animal Husbandry	..	3.19
3. Forests	..	7.07
4. Co-operation	..	5.95
5. Irrigation	..	17.40
6. Roads	..	21.11
7. Education	..	10.76
8. Medical	..	36.77
9. Urban water supply and drainage	..	5.67
10. Power Projects	..	0.13
TOTAL		154.54

(B) Central Schemes

1. Co-operation (medium & long term loans) ..	4.00
2. Community Development and N.E.S. ..	28.92
3. Local Development works ..	1.81
4. Cottage Industries ..	2.17
5. Social and Basic Education ..	64.48
6. Welfare of Backward Classes ..	7.02

1. *A Decade of Planned Development in Ajmer District and A Glimpse into Five Years Ahead, 1962, Zila Parishad, Ajmer, p. 53.*

7. Housing	..	1.40
8. Relief and Rehabilitation	..	22.38
9. Local Bodies	..	32.56
		<hr/>
TOTAL	..	164.74
		<hr/>
GRAND TOTAL	..	319.28
		<hr/>

SECOND PLAN—Progress in the Second Five Year Plan was much more marked. There were two-fold reasons for this. First, the execution of the First Plan schemes had given the administrative machinery necessary experience to tackle bigger problems with greater confidence. Secondly, in all sectors bigger sums were made available. The Second Plan of Ajmer State envisaged an outlay of Rs. 787.02 lakhs. When the state was merged in Rajasthan, it was decided to utilise the whole of this sum in the re-organized district of Ajmer. Such schemes as were extended to the district from the Rajasthan plan, were financed out of the savings from some of the Ajmer plan schemes. The total, as such, stood undisturbed at the original level. The principal attainments of physical targets are discussed below:

Agriculture and Irrigation

During the Second Five Year Plan, 1,779 new wells were constructed and another 2,800 deepened against the targets of 1,000 and 1,500 respectively. Under scheme for minor irrigation against the target of 50, 133 village tanks were developed. Besides, 35 pumping sets and 34 persian wheels were also installed; the targets were 60 and 50 respectively.

Under the seed distribution scheme, 39,000 maunds of wheat seed were distributed which quantity was almost double of the target of 20,000 maunds. Other seeds distributed, came to 3.98 thousand maunds against the target of 23 thousand maunds. A seed multiplication farm was started at Tabiji. Six seed stores were set up, falling short of the target by one.

Under the manure distribution programme, 256 tons of ammonium sulphate nitrate (target 250 tons), 34 tons of calcium ammonium nitrate, (target 15 tons), 64,773 tons of compost (target 50,000 tons), 1,782 tons of ammonium sulphate (target 611 tons), 190 tons of superphos-

phate (target 202 tons) and 109 tons of urea (target 300 tons) were distributed.

Under plant protection schemes, 32,660 acres of land was immunized from rat menace (target 20,000 acres), 15,477 acres from grass hopper damage (target 2,000 acres) and 4,000 acres from damage by other pests and diseases (target 3,000 acres). Besides, 29,000 maunds of seed were made disease resistant by scientific treatment against the target of 60,000 maunds. An area of 984 acres (target 1,000 acres) was planted with orchards.

Animal Husbandry

In the field of animal husbandry, eleven sheep and four poultry extension centres were started as targeted. Two veterinary hospitals were opened at Arain and Bijainagar and veterinary dispensaries were set up at Srinagar, Jawaja, Todgarh, Sawar, Baghera and Bandarsindari reaching the target in both cases. The existing dispensaries at Masuda and Pisangan were upgraded into hospitals. Six villages (target 20) were developed as key villages and seven goshalas (target six) were taken up for intensive development. A mobile veterinary unit was started fulfilling the plan target, but Gosadan was not opened.

Co-operation

The increase in membership during the plan period was 18,539 as against the target of 25,000. Branches of the Ajmer Central Co-operative Bank were opened at Pisangan, Masuda, Kishangarh, Bhinai, Kekri, Nasirabad, Beawar and Bijainagar, eight banking unions were amalgamated, 3 land mortgage societies were reorganized and 6 marketing co-operative societies were established, fulfilling the target in all cases, except in case of banking unions where it was exceeded by 60 per cent. Five godowns were also constructed falling short of the target by 50 per cent.

Progress in the co-operative movement below the district level consisted in construction of six godowns for small societies, revitalization of 300 small societies, organization of six supervisory unions and a similar number of joint farming societies and 79 small societies.

FORESTS AND SOIL CONSERVATION—Plantation was done on 1,700 acres (target 1,300 acres) of land in hilly terrain. Roadside plantations were made along 50 miles of roads far exceeding the target of 20 miles. Forest conservation activities were extended to 2,475 acres (target 2,400 acres). The targeted 25 miles of approach roads were constructed in the interior of forests. New nurseries were established at Kharwa and Ghu-

ghra and the existing one at Pachkund was expanded, fulfilling plan targets.

INDUSTRIES—All targets in the field of industries were fulfilled. Peripatetic training centres for mechanical training, carpentry, wooden toys, durr and niwar, and handloom were opened. Production cum-training centres for carpentry, blacksmithy and shoe-making (two each) were also started. Under the scheme of Small Industries Production Centres, cutlery, leather footwear and electric appliance centres (one each) were set up.

An industrial estate with space for thirty sheds has been established at Makhupura village near Ajmer. By the end of the Second Plan, 15 sheds had been completed while the remaining 15 were under construction. A handicrafts emporium has also been established.

ROADS—A total length of 269 miles of roads have been constructed or improved while the target was 283.25 miles.

EDUCATION—During the plan, 32 junior basic schools and middle schools were to be raised to senior basic level whereas the actual number of schools so converted has come to 59. Also, 33 high schools (target 34) were converted into multipurpose higher secondary schools. A polytechnic institute and a teachers training college (for Bachelor of Education degree) have been established. Other achievements include improvements in 14 school libraries (target 14), 3 municipal libraries (target 6), 3 private libraries (target 10) and grants-in-aid to 6 primary schools (target 30), 6 middle schools (target 10) and 19 high schools (target 10). One hundred and fourteen secondary schools were given aid for equipment; there being no fixed target for this.

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH—All the targeted eight Primary Health Centres were started at Srinagar, Pisangan, Masuda, Jawaja, Kadera, Bhinai, Roopangarh and Kharwa, and 10 quarters (target 40) were constructed for the staff. In the Victoria Hospital, Ajmer, twenty-five additional beds were provided in the eye ward and a new twenty-bed isolation ward was added, fulfilling plan targets in both cases. Seventeen staff quarters were built at Ajmer (target 27) and ten at Beawar (target 14).

The Ayurvedic department opened 26 dispensaries during the plan.

LABOUR AND LABOUR WELFARE—Labour welfare centres were started at Ajmer, Beawar, Bijainagar and Kekri attaining plan targets in the matter.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND WELFARE OF BACKWARD CLASSES—The number of scheduled tribes and scheduled castes in the district according to *Census of India, Paper Number 1 of 1962* (p. 44), is as follows:

	Males	Females
Scheduled Castes	90,235	84,794
Scheduled Tribes	8,036	7,471

(a) Scheduled tribes

For the education of scheduled tribes 910 scholarships have been awarded (target 4,850) and 27 given aid for boarding houses (target 50). Bullock subsidy has been given to 574 cultivators (target 250) and well subsidy to 243 (target 145). Four training centres for cottage industries have been established (target 4). Four hundred thirty people have received aid for better housing (target 500).

(b) Other Backward Classes

Similarly, for the welfare of other backward classes 2,747 scholarships have been awarded (target 1,780), five nursery schools opened (target 5), 120 families given subsidy for bullocks (target 200), and 201 families given grant for better housing (target 198).

(c) Scheduled Castes

Scholarships to students belonging to scheduled castes numbered 3,651 (target 2,250). Fourteen students have been given aid for boarding house (target 20), three nursery schools opened (target 5) and 5 community centres (target 5) started. Sixty six people have been given subsidy for drinking water wells (target 50). A technical centre for cottage industries has been opened (target 1). Sewing machines have been distributed to 58 widows (target 60). Aid for better housing has been given to 15 families (target 25). Nine voluntary agencies have also been aided.

Denotified tribes

Three hundred eighty-eight scholarships have been awarded (target 625), six nursery schools have been opened (target 6) and 3 community centres have been started (target 3) for the benefit of these tribes. Bullock subsidy has been given to 40 families (target 60), and 145 families have been given aid for better housing (target 200).

The following tables show yearwise and sectorwise expenditure on various schemes during the Second Five Year Plan as given in the *Second Five Year Plan Progress Report, Rajasthan*, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Yearwise expenditure on all plan schemes in Ajmer district during the Second Five Year Plan

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1956-57 ..	52.05
1957-58 ..	65.04
1958-59 ..	106.83
1959-60 ..	138.80
1960-61 ..	283.77
TOTAL ..	646.49

Sectorwise expenditure in Ajmer district during the Second Five Year Plan¹

Sector	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1. Agriculture ..	76.80
2. Animal Husbandry ..	13.78
3. Co-operation ..	10.50
4. Forests & Soil conservation ..	10.07
5. Fisheries ..	00.13
6. Community Development and National Extension Service ..	68.24
7. Irrigation ..	44.06
8. Power ..	88.60
9. Industries ..	20.85
10. Roads ..	49.94
11. Education ..	101.28
12. Medical and Health ..	44.51
13. Ayurved ..	4.07
14. Water supply ..	33.87
15. Housing ..	17.49
16. Labour and Labour welfare ..	7.87

1. Source—Second Five Year Plan Progress Report, Rajasthan, 1956-61
Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. LXXXIII. 95.

17.	Social Welfare and Welfare of backward classes	..	22.24
18.	Publicity	..	3.88
19.	Statistics	..	0.24
20.	Tourism	..	3.11
21.	Others	..	25.06
TOTAL			<hr/> 646.49 <hr/>

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The present district of Ajmer was formed in 1956 by the union of Ajmer-Merwara, a centrally administered area, and Kishangarh, an erstwhile state which was at that time a Sub-division of the Jaipur district. During the pre-independence period, Ajmer-Merwara was an isolated British tract in Rajputana consisting of two tracts known as Ajmer and Merwara and entirely surrounded by Rajput States. It was bounded on the north and west by Jodhpur, on the south by Udaipur and on the east by Kishangarh and Jaipur.

Ajmer

After the debacle at the second battle of Tarain in 1192 A.D., the Chauhans of Sapadlaksa lost their hold over Ajmer and though the victor placed Govinda (the son of the last great Chauhan king, Prithviraj III) on the throne of Ajmer on payment of a heavy tribute, he was soon ousted by his uncle Hariraja. However, Qutb-ud-din recaptured Ajmer in 1194 A.D. and annexed it to the Turkish conquests in India. After the invasion of Timur and the extinction of the house of Tughlaks, Rana of Mewar occupied Ajmer. For sometime it remained with Marwar and then fell into the hands of the Muslim kings of Malwa but was soon recovered by the rulers of Mewar. After the battle of Khanua and the rise of Bahadur Shah of Gujarat, Ajmer was annexed to that kingdom in 1533 A.D. But the continuous harassment to Bahadur Shah by emperor Humayun, offered an opportunity to Maldeo of Jodhpur who, taking advantage of the situation, seized the territory in 1535. He, however, had to give way to Shershah, who retained the territory for a brief period. Akbar conquered it in 1558. From that date, Ajmer remained an integral part of the Mughal empire, though in the later years, their hold had been much loosened.

During Akbar's reign Ajmer formed a *subah* of his vast empire. The total length of the *Subah* was 336 miles (540.73 Km.) and breadth, 300 miles (482.80 Km.). It was bounded by Agra, Delhi, Multan and Gujarat and contained 7 Sircars and 197 Parganahs. The *Subah* was to furnish 86,500 cavalry and 3,47,000 infantry of which Ajmer Sircar's share came to 16,000 cavalry and 80,000 infantry. The Ajmer Sircar was divided into 48 mahals.

In 1720 Ajit Singh, the son of Raja Jaswant Singh of Marwar, took possession of the territory. For a short while, the territory passed on to Sawai Jai Singh of Jaipur but son of Ajit Singh again captured the region after the death of the former. In the struggle for power that took place between Ram Singh, the successor of Abhai Singh and the latter's uncle Bhakt Singh, the Marathas were called in by Ram Singh. After Bhakt Singh's death, his son Bijay Singh opposed the Marathas and Jai Appa was assassinated at his instance. Ajmer was consequently ceded to the Mahrattas as compensation for the blood of Jai Appa and was held by them till 1787 A.D. when after the defeat of the Mahrattas at the battle of Tunga by the coalition of Rathores and the Kachawahas under the raja of Jaipur, the Rathores re-took the city. Three years later, the Marathas under De Boigune recovered Ajmer which they held till 1818 A.D. The area was then ceded by Daulat Rao Scindhia to the British in 1818 under a treaty signed on 25th June 1818 (Appendix I).

On the 28th July 1818 Mr. Wilder, the first British Superintendent of Ajmer, received charge of the district from Bapu Scindia, the last Maratha Governor. The details of the tract as then constituted, are contained in the first part of Schedule II of the Treaty of 1818. Subsequently, five villages were added to the district by Article 4 of the treaty of the 12th December, 1860 concluded with the Scindia (Appendix II).

In 1842 the district of Ajmer was united with that of Merwara for administrative purposes.

Merwara

Only intermittent references are found pertaining to the history of this tract, prior to 1818 A.D. The territory was inhabited by a tribe, who could never be subdued completely due to the difficult nature of the hilly track they occupied. They indulged in plundering and molestation of the neighbouring territories. In 1818 Mr. Wilder entered into agreements with Jhak and other villages of the tract according to which they agreed to abstain from plunder. This agreement was however, soon broken, and in March 1819, Mr. Wilder accompanied a punitive expedition sent from Nasirabad to coerce the villagers. They were punished and a few police outposts were established, but a general outbreak in 1820 convinced the British that it was necessary to subjugate the country thoroughly. With the co-operation of the Darbars of Mewar and Jodhpur whose claims to parts of this tract were accepted by the British, a vigorous campaign was launched and by the beginning of 1821, this area was brought under firm control.

The tract was divided into three portions. Four parganas namely, Beawar, Jak-Shakgarh, Bahar-Barkokra and Bhailan went to the British Government; three parganas, i.e. Todgarh, Dewair and Saroth, to Mewar; and the remaining two, Chang and Kot Kirana, to Marwar. The British Parganas were included in the British portion of the district of Ajmer-Merwara. The division appears to have been quite informal, and the names of the parganas assigned to each party, are not given in the official correspondence connected with the partition nor are they recited in the treaties; but the distribution effected was recognised ever since. In 1923 a formal settlement was made according to which the villages of Buli, Kukara and Saroth were awarded to Mewar, while nine villages were held in trust by the British Government, to be eventually handed over to Mewar as a reward for co-operation with the British. In 1837 half the net revenue of these villages, was assigned to Mewar as a special mark of favour".

Captain Tod, who was then British Agent at Mewar undertook the administration of the portion belonging to Mewar, appointed a governor on behalf of the Rana and raised a corps of matchlock men and began to collect revenue.

Of the Marwar villages, some were made over to the Jodhpur Darbar and placed under the adjoining Thakurs, while others were managed by Mr. Wilder as Superintendent of Ajmer. The latter were kept under control, but disorder reigned in the others. It was soon found that the control of the triple governments was advantageous only to the criminals. It was therefore, decided that the three portions should be brought together under the management of one British Officer vested with full authority in civil and criminal matters and that a battalion of 8 companies of 70 men each should be enrolled from among the Mers to preserve order.

The Maharana of Mewar reluctantly entered into the agreement of 1823, by which the management of the three Mewar-Merwara Parganas, consisting of 76 villages, was made over to the British Government for a period of ten years, the Maharana agreeing to pay Rs. 15,000 a year towards the cost of the local corps.

The arrangement expired in 1833 and as the Maharana had profited largely by it, he readily agreed to its continuance for a further period of 8 years by an agreement concluded at Beawar on the 7th March, 1833, the Maharana agreeing at the same time, to pay Rs. 5,000/- a year to the British Government

towards the cost of the administration, in addition to the Rs. 15,000/- already being paid for the local corps (Appendix III).

The arrangements with Jodhpur (Marwar) also caused some difficulty as the Darbar were equally reluctant to delegate the management of any part of the tract belonging to them. In March 1824, however, an engagement (Appendix IV) was concluded with the Darbar similar to that of 1823 with Mewar, by which the state agreed to make over 21 villages to the British Government for 8 years, and to pay Rs. 15,000 per annum towards the cost of the Mer Corps to be maintained for preserving order. It was understood that each Darbar should receive the revenue from their respective villages after deducting the cost of their management. This arrangement was continued by the Agreement of the 23rd October 1835 (Appendix V) for nine years more, the Jodhpur Darbar paying Rs. 15,000/- a year as before, and transferring seven more villages to the British Government in addition to the 21 villages made over by the engagement of 1824.

Both Mewar and Marwar agreed to the continuance of this arrangement. However, seven villages transferred to British in 1835 were restored to Jodhpur. A futile attempt to conclude an agreement for perpetual ceding of this area to British, was made in 1847.

In 1872 and 1874 the question, so far as the Mewar villages were concerned, was revived, but it was not finally settled until 1883 when the arrangement described in the Kharitas (Appendix VI) were concluded. These provided that the British Government should accept the revenues of Mewar-Marwara in full discharge of the Mewar State's contributions towards the cost of the administration of the tract and the expenses of the Mewar Bhil Corps and the Merwara Battalion, and that no demand should be made upon the Darbar for arrears of payment. The Maharana was at the same time specifically assured that his rights of sovereignty over Mewar-Merwara would in no way, be prejudiced by this arrangement; and that, should the yearly receipts for the district at any time, exceed Rs. 66,000/- which sum represented the contributions payable by the Darbar for the administration of Mewar-Merwara and the expenses of the local corps, the surplus money should be paid in full to the Darbar, to whom the Resident at Mewar should annually intimate, by Kharita, the aggregate revenues received from the district during the preceding twelve months.

In the case of Marwar-Merwara, satisfactory solution could be effected only in 1885 when it was agreed (Appendix VII) by the British

Government and the Darbar that Jodhpur should retain sovereign rights in their villages and receive Rs. 3,000/- a year from them, and that, in the event of a profit being derived from them by Government, the Darbar should receive 40 per cent of it. On these conditions the Government of India held full and permanent administrative control over the villages.

The Merwara Battalion remained loyal during the mutiny of 1857, and received special privileges. In 1870 it was reorganized into a purely military corps by Lord Mayo, and its headquarters were transferred from Beawar to Ajmer. In 1897 the Battalion was placed under the control of the Commander-in-chief in India. From 1903 it formed part of the Indian army, with the designation of 44th Merwara Infantry, till its disbandment in May 1921.

The Resident of Rajputana was the ex-officio Chief Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara. His headquarters were at Mount Abu. Under him were the Commissioner and the Assistant Commissioner with their headquarters at Ajmer. An extra Assistant Commissioner was stationed at Beawar, and was incharge of Merwara. A sub-divisional officer was incharge of the Kekri sub-division of Ajmer. The Commissioner held several offices. As Ajmer-Merwara was a small province of British India, it used to get its senior officers from the regular services of other provinces in India.

Kishangarh

Before merger, Kishangarh was one of the States of Rajputana with an area of 858 sq. miles (2,222 sq. Km.) The ruling house was a branch of Jodhpur.

However, there were many jagirdars in the State, a few of them like thakurs of Fatchgarh and Rupangarh, were very powerful. In fact, in 1873, the Thakur of Fatchgarh had declared his independence and was only subdued when the British intervened. The attempts of Kishangarh rulers to make them pay certain cash sums in lieu of personal service, were unsuccessful.

The supreme executive and legal authority was the Maharaja who ruled through a council. The State had adopted the legal codes from Hindu Shastras. The state was bound by the following treaties and agreements with British:

In 1862 the Ruler of Kishangarh was granted a sum of Rs. 20,000/-

a year as compensation for the loss of income his State was estimated to suffer owing to the introduction of the railway and in the same year was granted a permanent salute of 15 guns.

In 1868 an Extradition Treaty was concluded with the Kishangarh State for the mutual surrender of persons charged with certain specified offences. This was modified in 1887 by an Agreement providing that, in cases of extradition of offenders from British India to Kishangarh, the procedure for the time being in force in British India, should be followed.

In 1873 the Raja of Fatchgarh asserted his independence of the Maharaja and refused to pay allegiance to him. The Maharaja solicited the help of the British Government; and the Raja was warned that, in the event of his failing to comply with the legitimate demands of his feudal superior within six months, he would be subdued by force of arms. The submission of the Raja rendered use of force unnecessary. In 1909 the Thikana lapsed to the State owing to the Raja Maharaj Man Singh taking part in a seditious conspiracy against the State.

By a Treaty concluded in 1879, the Maharaja agreed to suppress the manufacture of salt throughout Kishangarh territory; to prohibit the import or consumption within the State, of any but British duty-paid salt; and to abolish transit duties and dues of any kind on all exports and imports. The Maharaja was, however, allowed to levy octroi, *chungi*, etc., on articles imported for actual consumption in towns with a population exceeding 5,000 and to levy duties on *bhang*, *ganja*, spirits, opium and other intoxicating drugs. In return, the British Government undertook to pay the Maharaja Rs. 25,000/- a year; to deliver annually at Sambhar, free of cost duty, 50 maunds of good salt for the use of the Maharaja, and to give as compensation to certain salt manufacturers a sum of Rs. 5,000/-.

In 1908 the Government of India recognized the title of *Umdae Rajahae Baland Makan*, conferred in 1707 by the Emperor Bahadur Shah on Maharaja Raj Singh, whose predecessor, Maharaja Man Singh had also been granted the title of *Umdae Rajahae* by the emperor Aurangzeb in 1698.

On the outbreak of the First Great War the Maharaja placed the resources of his State at the disposal of Government, and himself served in the war.

In 1923 the Darbar enacted laws and regulations to give effect to the provisions of the International Opium Convention of 1912.

In 1925 the Government of India sanctioned to the Kishangarh Darbar, the payment of a sum of Rs. 7,000/- per annum for the three years 1922-23 to 1924-25 and Rs. 8,000/- a year with effect from the 1st April 1925, as compensation for the loss of their water rights in the catchment area of the Sambhar Salt Lake lying in the Rupnagar valley. Till November 1956, it was a Sub-division of the Jaipur district when it was transferred to Ajmer.

Post-Independence Pattern

After independence Ajmer was declared a 'Part C' State and as such was placed under the charge of a Chief Commissioner for the purpose of administration.

The Chief Commissioner was the highest Revenue and Executive authority of the State. In certain matters he exercised the powers of Local Government while in others, such powers were exercised by the Central Government. The Chief Commissioner also functioned as the Excise Commissioner and Conservator of Forests.

Under the Chief Commissioner was the Deputy Commissioner who was assisted by an Assistant Commissioner and an Additional Assistant Commissioner. These officers held several offices. The Deputy Commissioner was the Collector of Revenue, Inspector General of Prisons, Inspector General of Stamps and Registration, Registrar General of Births, Marriages and Deaths, Court of Wards, the District Magistrate as also the officer who heard appeals in Municipal matters against certain orders of the Municipal Committees. The Assistant Commissioner was the Additional District Magistrate and Collector of Excise, Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, and also Collector of Revenue in the absence of the Deputy Commissioner from Headquarters. The Additional Assistant Commissioner was the Officer-in-charge, Court of Wards, Registrar of Assurance Companies, Societies and Firms, Collector of Stamps, Collector for Ajmer-Sub-Division under Land Redemption Act, Land Acquisition Act and the Ajmer Tenancy and Land Records Act and Sub-Divisional Magistrate and Sub-Judge First Class for rent suits relating to agricultural land. The district comprised of the sub-divisions of Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri.

Present Pattern

The present district was formed in 1956 and was placed under the Ajmer Commissioner in the matter of general supervision etc. The post of Divisional Commissioner was however, abolished in April 61 and thereafter, most of his duties have been transferred to the Collector.

The Collector is, in addition to his revenue duties, also District Magistrate and District Development Officer. Since the beginning of the First Plan period, development activities have been taking up an increasing amount of his time. With the introduction of the "three tier system" for democratic decentralization in October 1959, the Collector periodically attends meetings of the Panchayat Samitis and the Zila Parishad, in order to ensure co-ordination between the local bodies and the Executive Officers. Collector is ex-officio Chairman of a number of committees e.g., Mayo College Executive Council, Durgah and Pushkar Mela Committees, etc. Thus the Collector retains an important position in the sphere of development and all other fields of district administration.

The collection of revenue continues to occupy a great deal of his time. He does not only supervise the working of the Revenue Officers, but also acts as a Court of Appeal. He is also in charge of the Treasury. As a District Magistrate, he is responsible for law and order along with the Superintendent of Police and hears revisions against the orders of the criminal courts subordinate to him. He also hears appeals against the decisions of certain categories of subordinate criminal courts. Besides this, the Collector has wide powers under several Acts which enable him to keep a firm grip on the administration of the district. He is assisted in all these duties by the Additional Collector and Additional District Magistrate. In practice, other General Administrative department officers posted at the District Headquarters also assist them in addition to the own work of these officers.

Directly subordinate to the Collector in the vertical line of administration, are the Sub-divisional officers stationed at Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri and Kishangarh. The three sub-divisions of Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri comprise of only one tahsil each of the same names. The sub-division of Kishangarh comprises the tahsils of Kishangarh, Arain, Rupnagar and Sarwar. Each sub-divisional officer in his own jurisdiction, has revenue, magisterial and executive powers.

Under the Sub-divisional Officers are the seven tahsildar, who are assisted by Naib-Tahsildar. Each of these officers has similar functions

in his area. Each tahsil is sub-divided into Girdawar Circles, each in the charge of an official called Kanungo or Revenue Inspector. The Girdawar circles are further sub-divided into Patwar Halkas, this being the basic unit of administration. The patwari maintains the land registers and is also required to report any untoward happening taking place in his area. The actual collection of land revenue is at present done through Commission agents known as Chaudharies.

In former times, the emphasis in district administration was on the collection of revenue and maintenance of law and orders. Though these are still important, the main emphasis has shifted to the sphere of welfare and development work. The welfare and development departments and agencies are now playing a very important role in the district administration. While the Collector, Sub-divisional Officer, Tahsildar, etc., lie in the vertical line of administration, the horizontal line of administration comprises the Collector and the district officers in charge of Education, Agriculture, Irrigation, Industries, Public Works etc. and are known as District Level Officers. All the District Level Officers meet once a month to discuss the policies, work programmes and difficulties and draw plans for future action. The Collector presides at these meetings and discusses with the district officers the programmes of the Panchayat Samitis.

Police has a special importance in the administration of the district. The Superintendent of Police and the Collector work in close consultation with each other in the matter of law and order.

As far as judicial matters are concerned, the highest authority in the district is the District and Sessions Judge, who exercises supervision over the working of all the civil and some criminal courts in the district.

The following is a list of district officers of the Rajasthan Government not included in the hierarchical line of administration:—

1. Additional District Magistrate.
2. District & Sessions Judge.
3. Civil and Additional Sessions Judge.
4. Munsiffs Magistrates.
5. Munsiffs.
6. City Magistrate.
7. Superintendent of Police.
8. Commanding Officer R.A.C.
9. Deputy Collector Jagir.

10. Executive Engineer P.W.D.
11. Executive Engineer Irrigation.
12. Inspector of Schools.
13. District Social Education Officer.
14. Asstt. Director Female Education.
15. District Agriculture Officer.
16. District Industries Officer.
17. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies.
18. Assistant Commissioner, Excise & Taxation.
19. Public Relations Officer.
20. Treasury Officer.
21. Principal Medical and Health Officer.
22. Medical Officer, Malaria Eradication Programme.
23. District Animal Husbandry Officer.
24. Welfare Officer.
25. Deputy Superintendent Anti-Corruption.
26. Divisional Forest Officer.
27. District Electoral Officer.
28. Assistant Collector and Magistrate.
29. Municipal Magistrate.
30. Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Survey and Investigation Division.

Staffing Pattern

The work programmes of these district officers have been discussed in the relevant chapters. It would not, however, be out of place here to say something regarding the set-up of some of the bigger offices.

The work of the Collectorate is divided among the following nine sections: Nazarat, Development, Judicial, District Revenue Accounts, Revenue, Records, Panchayats, Famine and Supplies. The clerical staff consists of an office superintendent, 4 stenographers, 17 upper division clerks, 34 lower division clerk and an Inspector in the Supplies Section.

The office of the Deputy Collector (Jagir) has one Stenographer, Seven Upper Division Clerks and 20 Lower Division Clerks. A considerable amount of work has to be done in the district in connection with the implementation of the Resumption of Jagirs Act. The Deputy Collector (Jagir) attends in this work under the over all supervision of the Collector.

Each Sub-divisional Officer stationed at Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri

and Kishangarh has office staff consisting of a Reader and three Lower Division Clerks.

The District Electoral Officer has a staff of one U.D.C., six L.D.Cs. and five Supervisors. The Collector is also the District Electoral Officer.

The Treasury Officer has a staff of two Accountants, 17 Upper Division Clerks and 22 Lower Division Clerks.

The office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation has a staff of four Assistant Engineers, one Divisional Accountant, eight Upper Division Clerks and 14 Lower Division Clerks besides the technical staff of two Draftsmen, one Computer, one Mistry, one Tracer and one Foreman.

The Divisional Forest Officer has a staff of 10 Rangers, two Deputy Rangers, 17 Foresters, 14 Head guards, one Accountant, one Head Clerk, one U.D.C. and 16 L.D.Cs.

The District Industries Office has four sections: The Direction and Superintendence Section is manned by one U.D.C. and two L.D.Cs. the Inspection and Stamping (Handloom) Section by an Inspector and an L.D.C.; the Designing Extension Centre has a Designer, a Printing and Dyeing Master, a Block maker, an L.D.C. and Store-keeper; the Leather Centre is under an Inspector and an L.D.C.

The Office of the Superintendent of Police has three branches with a Head Clerk in charge. The Accounts Branch has an Accounts Clerk of the grade of U.D.C. and a Bill Clerk, Cashier—all of the grade of U.D.C. The Force Branch is staffed by a one Force Clerk (U.D.C.) and one Assistant Force Clerk (L.D.C.) and the General Branch has one correspondence clerk (U.D.C.) and one Assistant Correspondence Clerk, one Record Clerk, one Typist, a Receipt Clerk and a Despatch Clerk, all of the grade of L.D.C.

The Inspector of Schools has a Deputy Inspector, and seven clerks. The Assistant Director of Education (women) has a staff of one U.D.C. and one L.D.C.

The Assistant Commissioner, Excise and Taxation has a staff consisting of 17 inspectors, six upper division clerks, 33 lower division clerks, two moharrirs and 62 class IV servants.

There are two Asstt. Registrars of Co-operative Societies for Ajmer district—one for Ajmer (north) and the other for Ajmer (south). The staff of these offices consists of 22 Executive Inspectors, 28 Audit Inspectors, three U.D.Cs. and five L.D.Cs. The technical staff is posted with the Panchayat Samitis.

The District Agricultural Officer has a staff of two U.D.Cs., one L.D.C., one Agriculture Assistant and one Agriculture Fieldman. The department has initiated several schemes necessitating employment of extra staff. Under the Grow More Food Scheme, there is one mistry and one cleaner; the Weed Control Scheme works with only one Fieldman; the Marketing Scheme employs five Marketing Inspectors; Under the Locust Control Scheme, there is one Locust Assistant; Ber Fruit Schemes works under a Horticultural Assistant and Mukadam. To step up the production of cotton, there are six cotton fieldmen, one weighman. and one cotton Inspector.

The office of the Principal Medical and Health Officer has a staff of one office Superintendent, one Accountant, 11 U.D.C. and 22 L.D.Cs.

The staff of the office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer consists of two U.D.Cs. and three L.D.Cs.

The above description of the staffing pattern in various offices does not take account of auxiliary categories of staff, such as Class IV employees.

Some important State level offices such as the Public Service Commission, the Board of Revenue and the Board of Higher Secondary Education for Rajasthan, are also located at Ajmer. Detailed information regarding these is available in another Chapter.

Similarly, a number of important offices and institutions of the Central Government are located at Ajmer. Detailed account regarding them is available elsewhere. More important of these are the Divisional Superintendent and the Railway Workshop, Western Railway, Superintendent of Posts and Telegraphs, Income Tax Officer, Bureau of Mines and Geology under a Deputy Director, Central Public Works Department, Central Excise and Customs and Conciliation Officer.

Military Installations

There is a Military cantonment in the District covering an area of

and deliver to Maharajah Dowlut Rao Sindia, without delay, a counterpart of this engagement, with the ratification of Most Noble the Governor General.

Done at Gwalior, this twenty-fifth day of June in the year of our Lord 1818, corresponding with the twentieth day of Shaban, 1233 of the Hegira and with the 7th of Jesht Vud, in the year 1219 of the Arabic era.

(Sd.) J. STEWART
Acting Resident

MEMORANDUM — This engagement was ratified by his Excellency the Governor-General, on the river near Dinapore, on the 9th July 1818.

APPENDIX II

Treaty between the British Government on the one part, and Maharajah Ali Jah Jyajee Rao Sindia Bahadoor, and his children, heirs and successors on the other part; settled on the part of the British Government by Colonel Sir Richmond Campbell Shakespear, K.T. and C.B., Agent to the Governor-General in Central India, by virtue of full powers to that effect vested in him by His Excellency the Right Honourable Charles John Earl Canning, G.C.B., Viceroy and Governor-General of India and one of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, and on the part of His Highness Jyajee Rao Sindia by Jugdeo Rao Mohurkur, Commander-in-Chief, and Balajee Chinnajee, Durbar Dewan, nominated by His Highness to conduct this negotiation.

ARTICLE 3

The Maharajah transfers to the British Government in full sovereignty the whole of His Highness' possessions in the Punj Mahals, and to the south of the river Nerbudda, also pergunnah Kunjeca on the river, on the following conditions:

FIRST—That, for the lands transferred by His Highness, the British Government shall give in exchange lands of equal value, calculated, on Betwa both sides, on the present gross revenue.

SECOND—That, in lieu of all tributes and perquisites now derived by the Maharajah from the lands to be transferred by His Highness, the British Government shall for the future pay to the Maharajah from the British Treasury at Gwalior an equivalent in Company's Rupees, calculated at the average rate of batta which has prevailed during the last six months.

THIRD—That each government shall respect the conditions of existing leases until their expiry, and that, in order that this may be made clear to all concerned, each government shall give to its new subjects leases for the same terms of years, and on the same conditions as those which they at present enjoy.

FOURTH—That each government shall give to its new subject 'Sunnuds' in perpetuity, for the rent-free lands, the jaghires, the perquisites, and the hereditary claims (i.e., 'Huks' and 'Wuttuns') which they enjoy at present under the other government.

ARTICLE 4

On the same terms and conditions as those specified in the foregoing Article, the Maharajah Sindia transfers to the British Government the whole of His Highness' present rights and interests in both lands and perquisites in the districts of

1. Ahmednuggur
2. Kandeish
3. Poonah
4. Sattara
5. Sholapoor
6. Pergunnah Beri in Zillahs Agra and Muttra
7. His jaghire in Zillah Ajmere.

The hereditary Kusba and Dhakilla villages named below are especially excluded from the above transfer, and will remain, as hitherto, in the possession of the Maharajah, and continue with His Highness on the same terms as heretofore:—

NAMES OF VILLAGES:

1. Kusba Sirogonda, including Velso and Bhingaon.
 2. Village Jamgaon.
 3. Village Pepulgaon.
 4. Village Ghaosepooree.
 5. Village Deoolgaon.
 6. Village Kunnari Khair.
 7. Village Kusba Patus.
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APPENDIX III

AGREEMENT entered into by **LIEUTENANT COLONEL LOCKETT**, Agent to the Governor-General for the States of Rajpootana, on the part of the **HONOURABLE COMPANY**, and **MEHTA SHERE SING PURDHAN**, **SHAM NATH PUROHIT**, and **RAI CHIRUNJEE LALL**, the accredited Agents of the Government of Oudeypore, for continuing in the possession of the British Government for a further period of eight years, viz., from 31st May 1833 to 31st May 1841, that portion of the Oudeypore lands comprised in the tract called Mugra Mairwarra. Concluded at Beawur on the 7th March 1833, with the consent of both parties.

ARTICLE 1

The arrangements now in force for the management of the villages comprised in the Oudeypore share of Mugra Mairwarra to continue for a further period of eight years as stated above.

ARTICLE 2

As the existing arrangement entails upon the British Government considerable expense, while it tends to the increased advantage of the State of Oudeypore, it is stipulated and agreed that the Durbar of Oudeypore shall pay to the British Government, in addition to the sum of Rupees 15,000 hetherto annually paid by them to defray the expenses of the Cantonment of Beawur, the further sum of Rupees 5,000 per annum; or in all Rupees 20,000 which will cover the expenses of the collection of the revenues also for eight years longer.

ARTICLE 3

Two Mootsuddies shall always remain in attendance upon Major Hall for the purpose of examining the reports of the collections from the villages in the Oudeypore share of Mairwarra; and they shall prepare and compare the accounts of collections from those villages with the Mootsuddies of the British Government.

ARTICLE 4

A copy of this Agreement shall be transmitted to the Durbar of Oudeypore after the sanction of the Right Honourable the Governor-General shall have been obtained.

APPENDIX IV

1824

Translation of an Engagement on the part of the Jodhpur Government regarding the Marwar lands in Mairwarra.

This Darbar feels perfectly satisfied it would keep up an efficient Police in Mairwarra and would be accountable for all occurrences there; but being over desirous of pleasing the British Government, who wish to establish their own system for the better order of the tract, the sum of Rupees 15,000 shall be annually paid for eight years towards the expense of maintaining the Corps raised for this purpose, as pointed out by Mr. Wilder. Accordingly Chang Chitar and the other Khalseh villages, belong to Marwar, in which the Thakoors of this Durbar were stationed through the assistance of a British Force sent to chastise them, shall be made over in trust for the above time; but the attendance of an Agent on the part of this Government must be permitted in order to take an account of the receipts, and a corresponding deduction be allowed for whatever may be collected. At the expiration of the stipulated period the contribution will cease and the lands will be taken back.

Dated 4th Rujub 1239 Hijree
Byas Soorut Ram,
Vakcel.

APPENDIX V

1835

Translation of an Engagement on the part of the Jodhpur Government regarding the Marwar lands in Mairwarra.

Whereas this Durbar, with the view of acting in conformity with the wishes of the British Government and the advice and injunctions of their representative, Mr. Wilder, formerly agreed to pay annually the sum of Rupees (15,000) fifteen thousand for a period of eight (8) years towards the expense of maintaining the corps newly raised for the purpose of preserving good order in the Mairwarra tract; and whereas the villages of Chang Chittar and others of Marwar, in which the thannahs of this Durbar were established through the aid of the British Force sent to chastise them, were made over in trust to the British Government for the above period, on an understanding that an accredited Agent on the part of this Government should be permitted to be in attendance for the purpose of inspecting and examining all accounts of the revenue of the said villages, and a deduction should be allowed from the annual contributions of Rupees (15,000) fifteen thousand, corresponding in amount to the aggregate collections from the said villages, and that at the expiration of this stipulated period, the said contribution should cease and the lands be restored.

2. And whereas the said agreement expired on the 5th of Phagoon Suddee Sumbut 1888 (corresponding with the 3rd of Rujub 1247 Hijree) and this Durbar, with the view again of conciliating the good wishes of the British Government and yielding to the injunctions of Major Alves, Agent to the Governor General for the States of Rajpootana, communicated through his Assistant, Lieutenant Henry Trevelyan, does now engage to continue the payment to the British Government of the Annual contributions aforesaid of Rupees (15,000) fifteen thousand towards the expense of maintaining the said corps and to replace in trust in their hands the villages of Chang Chittar and others aforesaid under similar conditions for a further period of nine (9) years, commencing from the 6th of Phagoon Sumbut 1888 (corresponding with the 5th Rujub 1247 Hirjee).

3. And further, with the desire of increasing the friendship at present subsisting between the British Government and this Durbar, it does hereby engage agreeably to their wishes to make over to them in trust, for a period commencing from the 2nd of Kartick Suddee Sumbut 1892 (corresponding with the 29th Jumadee Usanee 1251

Hijree) and ending with the conclusion of the engagement with regard to the village, above alluded to, seven other villages, as below detailed subject to the same conditions as those under which the transfer of the former villages of Chang Chittar & c., was made.

4. After the conclusion of the above mentioned period the payment of the annual contribution in money and the lease of the villages, both now and before handed over to the British Government, shall cease to have effect, and the whole of the villages above adverted to shall be restored.

Concluded the 2nd of Kartick suddee Sumbut 1892, corresponding with 29th Jumadec Usanee 1251 Hijree and 23rd October 1835 A.D.

Names of Villages Above Alluded To

Raturceah
Naudnah
Ral

Dhal
Bhugoorah
Karwarah

Chuttrajce ka Goodha

Byas Siwai Ram.
Vakeel.

APPENDIX VI (a)

KHARITA FROM HIS EXCELLANCY THE VICEROY and GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA to HIS HIGHNESS MAHARANA DHIRAJ SAJJAN SINGH, G.C.S.I., of OUDEYPORE, dated the 16th October, 1883.

MY HONOURED AND VALUED FRIEND,

I have had under long and careful consideration the "Kharita" which your Highness addressed on the 24th February 1882 to my officiating Agent in Rajputana, with reference to the district of Meywar-Mairwarra. In the year 1881 a somewhat similar representation from Your Highness received my full attention. I then caused my Agent in Rajputana to communicate to Your Highness my opinion that the tenure on which the British Govt. administers the district of Meywar-Mairwarra was a matter involving questions of intricacy, and that a discussion about it did not appear to be expedient. At the same time I expressed my desire of removing, as far as possible, all difficulties connected with the adjustment of the accounts of the district. With this view I determined that the revenues of Meywar-Mairwarra should in future be accepted in full discharge of contributions due from the Oudeypore State towards the Mewar Bhil Corps, the Mairwarra Battalion, and the cost of the administration of the district itself. I further consented to forego a claim on Your Highness for arrears amounting to more than Rs. 76,000 on the understanding that in future the system of rendering accounts of the district to Your Highness should be discontinued as tending to give rise to unprofitable discussions about small matters.

Your Highness, while cordially recognising the liberal spirit in which this decision had been conceived, expressed an apprehension lest your rights of sovereignty over Meywar-Mairwarra should be impaired in the eyes of your subjects by a discontinuance of the former system of rendering accounts. Moreover, Your Highness anticipated, in view of a revision of the current revenue settlement of the district, that the new arrangements might not ultimately prove to be profitable to the Oudeypore State. Your Highness therefore suggested as an alternative plan that territorial exchanges should be arranged between Your Highness and the Maharaja Sindia in order to transfer to you certain outlying villages which are now possessed by the Gwalior Darbar and in consideration for which Your Highness would be prepared to cede Meywar-Mairwarra to the British Government in full sovereignty.

My friend! it will always give the greatest gratification to the representative of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress in this country to

meet to the utmost the wishes of a Chief so loyal and enlightened as Your Highness. But the careful enquiries which I have instituted have shown that the territorial exchanges indicated by Your Highness could not at the present time be conveniently carried out. I have therefore reluctantly been compelled to give up the idea.

It has, however, been suggested to me that the arrangements made in the year 1881 would be more agreeable to Your Highness if they were rendered more explicit by distinct assurance that they were not intended to prejudice or affect in any way Your Highness's rights of sovereignty over the Meywar-Mairwarra District. Such an assurance I now readily give, and I trust that it may remove from Your Highness's mind all uneasiness in this matter. The revision of the current settlement in the whole of Ajmere-Mairwarra has recently been under my consideration, and I am of opinion that in Meywar-Mairwarra no great enhancement of the revenue demand can be expected. But to provide against such a contingency, I am willing to undertake that, if the receipts from the district should at any time exceed Rs. 66,000 per annum, which sum represents the amount of the contributions payable by Your Highness on account of its administration and of the Meywar Bhil Corps and the Mairwarra Battalion, the surplus proceeds shall be paid over to the Udeypore State. The Resident in Meywar will also be instructed to annually inform Your Highness in a "Kharita" of the amount of the revenues of the Meywar Mairwarra District during each year as it closes. I need not, however, explain to Your Highness that this statement will be furnished not in order to revive the system of rendering and examining accounts which has been found inconvenient in the past, but merely for Your Highness's perusal and information.

I feel assured that Your Highness will receive this statement of my views on an important and difficult matter in the cordial and loyal spirit which has always marked Your Highness's relations with the British Government.

I beg to express the High consideration which I entertain for Your Highness, and to Subscribe myself.

Your Highness's sincere friend,
RIPON,

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA

SIMLA,

The 16th October, 1883.

APPENDIX - VI (b)

Translation of a Kharita from His Highness the Maharana of Oodeypore to his Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, dated 13th November 1883.

AFTER COMPLIMENTS—I have received, in reply to the request which I addressed to Your Excellency with reference to the arrangement notified in 1881, affecting the district of Maywar-Mairwarra, Your Excellency's kind and friendly Kharita, dated the 16th October 1883, in which you assure me that the wish of the Darbar for the exchange of the district is not conveniently at the present time practicable; that the arrangement which has now been made is not intended to interfere with or affect the sovereign rights of the Darbar over the tract; that if at any time the revenue of the district shall exceed the sum of Rs. 66,000 yearly, which sum is payable by the Darbar on account of management charges, the Meywar Bhil Corps and the Mairwarra Battalion, the surplus will be paid to the Oodeypore State; and that the Resident in Meywar will be instructed to convey by Kharita at the end of each year intimation regarding the revenue of Meywar-Mairwarra; while with regard to myself, after alluding in courteous terms to my loyalty, you were good enough to say that you would always find much pleasure in being able to gratify my wishes.

2. Regarding Meywar-Mairwarra requests have for a considerable period been preferred, but it has been reserved for Your Excellency's administration to take the matter into consideration, and to devise an arrangement favourable to me so far as present circumstances permit. I have from the first felt assured of your kind and liberal feelings, and this reliance has been further strengthened by the conveyance of the kind intimation that, in the future, the Representative of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress in this country will, in the matter of the achievement of my wishes, evince the utmost consideration. For which assurance I have the pleasure to tender Your Excellency my thanks.

APPENDIX VII

Arrangement with Jodhpur regarding Marwar-Merwara, 1885

From HIS EXCELLENCY the VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA to HIS HIGHNESS RAJ RAJESHWAR MAHARAJA ADHIRAJ JASWANT SINGH BAHADUR, G.C.S.I., dated Simla August 1885.

MY HONOURED AND VALUED FRIEND,

Towards the end of last year my Agent in Rajputana represented to me that the debt due from Your Highness's State to the British Government on account of the Merwara Battalion had been liquidated by the 31st March 1884, and that an opportunity offered itself of settling in a satisfactory manner the tenure on which the British Government administers the district of Marwar-Merwara. I approved of certain terms of settlement which had been suggested by Sir Edward Bradford, and I authorised him to ascertain Your Highness's wishes on the subject. In reply I have received a copy of communication addressed under Your Highness's orders on the 1st May 1885, to the Resident in the Western States of Rajputana. I understand from this letter that Your Highness is willing to leave Marwar-Merwara to the permanent occupation and full administrative control of the British Government, subject to the following conditions, namely:—

- (1) That the sovereign rights of the Marwar States over the tract shall be fully recognised by the British Government;
- (2) That the surplus revenue of the tract accumulated from past years, and now in the possession of the British Government, shall be handed over to the Marwar State;
- (3) That the Marwar State shall in future receive an annual payment from the British of three thousand rupees on account of the Revenue of the tract, without regard to the amount actually realised from the villages by the British Government;
- (4) That if hereafter the annual revenue derived by the British Government from the villages more than covers the stipulated payment of three thousand rupees, and the cost of management and any charges for improvements specially sanctioned by the Government of India, a share of the net surplus amounting to forty per centum shall be paid to the Marwar State under the name of 'Royalty'.

I now write to inform Your Highness that on behalf of the British Government I accept and agree to these conditions.

The new arrangement may appropriately take effect from the 1st of April 1885; and I have therefore instructed Sir Edward Bradford to pay to Your Highness' Agent the balance at the credit of the district of Marwar-Merwara on that date, namely, eleven thousand two hundred and six rupees and eight annas.

I beg to express the high consideration which I entertain for Your Highness.

APPENDIX VIII (a)

Treaty between the Honourable the English East India Company and Maharana Bheem Singh, Rana of Oudeypore, concluded by Mr. Charles Theophilus Matcalfe, on the part of the Honourable Company, in virtue of full powers granted by His Excellency the Most Noble the Marquis of Hastings, K.G., Governor-General, and by Thakoor Ajeet Singh, on the part of the Maharana, in virtue of full powers conferred by the Maharana aforesaid. 1818.

ARTICLE 7

Whereas the Maharana represents that portions of the dominions of Oudeypore have fallen by improper means into the possession of others, and solicits the restitution of those places; the British Government, from a want of accurate information, is not able to enter into any positive engagement on this subject, but will always keep in view the renovation of the prosperity of the State of Oudeypore and after ascertaining the nature of each case, will use its best exertions for the accomplishment of that object, on every occasion on which it may be proper to do so. Whatever places may thus be restored to the State of Oudeypore, by the aid of the British Government three-eighths of their revenues shall be paid in perpetuity to the British Government.

APPENDIX VIII (b)

TREATY between the **HONOURABLE ENGLISH EAST INDIA COMPANY & MAHARAJAH KULLIAN SINGH BAHADOOR**, the **RAJAH OF KISHUNGARH**, concluded by **Mr. CHARLES THEOPHILUS-METCALFE** on the part of the **HONOURABLE COMPANY**, in virtue of full powers granted by **HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF HASTINGS, K.G., GOVERNOR-GENERAL**, etc., etc. and by **KAZEE FUTTEH MOHUMMUD KHAN**, on the part of **MAHARAJA KULLIAN SINGH BAHADUR**; according to full powers given by the **RAJAH**, 1818.

ARTICLE 1

There shall be perpetual friendship, alliance, and unity of interests between the Honourable Company and Maharajah Kullian Singh and his heirs and successors, and the friends and enemies of one party shall be the friends and enemies of both parties.

ARTICLE 2

The British Government engages to protect the principality and territory of Kishangurh.

ARTICLE 3

Maharajah Kullian Singh and his heirs and successors will act in sub-ordinate co-operation with the British Government, and acknowledge its supremacy, and will not have any connection with any other Chiefs or States.

ARTICLE 4

The Maharajah and his heirs and successors will not enter into negotiations with any Chiefs or State without the knowledge and sanction of the British Government, but the usual amicable correspondence with friends and relations shall continue.

ARTICLE 5

The Maharajah and his heirs and successors will not commit aggression on any one. If by accident any dispute arise with any one the settlement of it shall be submitted to the arbitration and award of the British Government.

ARTICLE 6

The Maharajah of Kishengurh will furnish troops at the requisition of the British Government according to his means.

ARTICLE 7

The Maharajah and his heirs and successors shall be absolute rulers of their country; and the British jurisdiction shall not be introduced into that principality.

ARTICLE 8

This Treaty of eight Articles having been concluded, and signed and sealed by Mr. Charles Theophilus Metcalfe and Kazee Futteh Mohummad Khan, the ratification by His Excellency the Most Noble the Governor-General and Maharajah Kullian Singh Bahadoor, shall be exchanged within twenty days from the present date.

Done at Delhi, this 26th day of March A.D. 1818.

C. T. Metcalfe
Kullian Singh Bahadoor
Futteh Mohummud Khan
Hastings

This Treaty was ratified by His Excellency the Governor-General, in Camp at Bansbareeah, on the seventh day of April 1818.

J. ADAM
Secretary to the Governor-General

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Little is known of the history of Ajmer during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. The account of the ensuing period is available in *Ain-i-Akbari*, Dr. Saran's *Provincial Administration* and the *Embassy of Sir Thomas Roe*. Akbar made Ajmer a *subah* with Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer and Sirahi subordinate to it. The length of the *subah* was 336 miles and breadth 300 miles, with a total revenue of Rs. 72,10,038-14-9. Out of this, the revenue of Ajmer Sarkar was Rs. 31,09,169-8.¹ The incidence of revenue was one-third of the produce. Although, in general the principle of cash payment was introduced for the sake of convenience of the cultivators, it was qualified in many ways under different circumstances. The *amil* was ordered not to 'make it a practice of taking only cash payments but also in kind'. The main feature of the revenue payable to the Imperial Government was that it was in even thousands, representing a stipulated sum, which the state was under obligation to pay to the sovereign. This system does not indicate the existence of the *zabti* system except in a few *mahals* of Ajmer².

The Marathas never collected more than Rs. 3,76,740 from the district and, of this sum, Rs. 31,000 was the amount at which the custom had been formed; the remainder was land revenue amounting to Rs. 3,45,740; the assessment of the *istimrar* villages was Rs. 2,16,762 and that of the *Khalsa* villages, Rs. 1,28,978. Their custom was to exact all that they could under land revenue, which they called *aen*, and under various cesses. Perron, a French Governor of the Marathas, is known to have settled the area for the first time.⁴

Under the British rule, the administration of *Istimrar* estates in Ajmer had been confined to collecting from them a fixed assessment, the *thakurs* and *jagirdars* being left to manage their own affairs. The following account from Watson's gazetteer of Ajmer covers the history of Land Revenue upto 1905.

"Mr. Wilder's Administration

The actual collections from the *Khalsa* in the year before the

1. *Ajmer Historical and Descriptive* by Sarda, p. 154.

2. *Ain-i-Akbari*.

3. *Provincial Administration* by Dr. P. Saran, page 313-314.

4. *Ajmer Historical and Descriptive* by Sarda.

cession of Ajmer to the British on the 26th July, 1818, amounted to Rs. 1,15,060. Mr. Wilder, Assistant to the Resident at Delhi, was the first Superintendent appointed to Ajmer. In the first year of his administration he decided to take the revenue in the Khalsa at the rate of one-half the estimated out-turn of the crop. The collections for the year were Rs. 1,59,746, and Mr. Wilder writes that the measure of an equal division of the crop had been production of all the benefits he had anticipated. The people had acquired confidence in the moderation and justice of their new government, and though it would not be advisable for the next two years to demand any great addition to the increase that had already taken place, yet he was confident that on the third year the *jama* might be raised to double what it had reached under any preceding government without at all pressing on the inhabitants'. He accordingly proposed a three years progressive settlement, in the first year Rs. 1,79,437, in the second year Rs. 2,01,691 and in the third year Rs. 2,40,303. His dominant, if not sole anxiety, appears to have been to increase the Government revenue. He furnished no information of the principle on which the demand had been fixed, nor of the grounds on which a progressive assessment had been resolved, and the settlement was confirmed with some hesitation by Government, who remarked on the proved disadvantages of an assessment framed on anticipated improvement, which checks the rising spirit of industry and the accumulation of capital.

"Owing to two bad harvests, the settlement broke down the first year. Mr. Wilder proposed to relinquish the balance and to make a settlement on a fixed annual *jama* of Rs. 1,64,700. Both proposals were sanctioned by Government, the term of the settlement being fixed for five years. The assessment was fairly collected for the first four years, though in the last year the people were obliged to borrow to pay their revenue; but the fifth year was one of famine. Recourse was had to collecting one-half of the produce, and the amount realized was Rs. 31,920. The next year was a good one, but the people objected to pay according to Mr. Wilder's settlement, and the revenue was again collected *Kham*. Mr. Wilder had been transferred to December 1824, the middle of the famine year. His six year's administration had not been productive of any great results. He took little pains to ascertain the value of the land he assessed, or the condition of the people, and the era of material improvement had not yet dawned. His administration was rather starved; the whole cost of the revenue and police establishment of the district was Rs. 1,374 a month, or less than half his own salary of Rs. 3,000.

"Mr. Henry Middleton, also a North-West civilian, succeeded Mr. Wilder in December, 1824. He was of the opinion that monetary assessments of any kind were unpalatable to the people, and if confidence could be reposed in the subordinate officers, the system of taking in kind would be best. The experience, however, of the year 1825-26 rendered Mr. Middleton loth to adopt this system. Accordingly, he proposed a five years' settlement, and reported its completion on the 26th November, 1826. He had rough measurement rolls prepared, but he chiefly relied on the collections of the previous year as a criterion of resources. He remarks on the poverty of the people and the extortions of the money-lenders. Many cultivators who had come to the district in the first years of the British rule had been driven away again by bad harvests and high assessment. The wells had fallen into disrepair, and the people had no money to repair them. Mr. Middleton's settlement was sanctioned at Rs. 1,44,072 for five years.

"The assessment, however, was only collected in the first of the years the settlement had to run, and that with considerable difficulty. Mr. Middleton did not remain long enough in the district to collect the next year's revenue, and made over charge to Mr. Cavendish in October, 1827. He cannot be said to have initiated any useful measures.

"Mr. Cavendish, his successor, was a great reformer and left the impress of his energy on every department of administration. To him the district is indebted for a very valuable collection of statistics regarding *istimrar*, *blum* and *jagir* tenures. He carried out, however, little of what he put his hand to, and the sanction which had been accorded to Mr. Middleton's settlement prevented his interference in the assessment of the *khalsa*. Mr. Cavendish considered that Mr. Middleton's assessment was too high for several reasons: "because the cultivated area has remained stationary since the time of the Marathas, who only collected Rs. 87,689; because the rate of assessment exceeds half the produce; because no cultivator in the soil of Ajmer, which requires much trouble and expense, can afford to pay one-half the produce; because the assessment is collected not from the produce of the soil, but by a fluctuating and arbitrary tax; and because the assessment has been made on the basis of a favourable year's collections when corn was dear." Mr. Cavendish applied the rates to which he had been accustomed in Saharanpur to Mr. Middleton's areas, and calculated that the assessment ought to be Rs. 87,645 instead of Rs. 1,44,072.

"Along with other reasons, he gives what seems to be the real key

to the over-assessment of the district viz., that 1818-19 was a very good year in Ajmer, while, owing to the devastations of Amir Khan in the territory of Mewar and Marwar, there was a large demand on all sides for grain, and prices were very high. Indeed, the first assessments of British revenue officers in newly-acquired districts almost invariably broke down through the error of over-estimating corn prices. They used to take the old war prices that prevailed during the anarchy preceding annexation, and they forgot that with peace and order came plenty and open markets. Mr. Cavendish recommended that people should not be pressed for their revenue in bad seasons. He also partially introduced an assessment of individual holding, a measure unknown to Mr. Middleton's settlement. He laid stress on the point that remissions granted in a lump sum benefit not the real sufferers, but the *tahsildars*, *kanungos*, *patwaris* and *patels*. He introduced for the first time *patwaris* accounts, appointed them for many villages where there were none, and directed every *patwari* to give a receipt. Although Government refused to revise the assessment, they directed that diligent enquiry as to the resources of each village should be made during the unexpired period of the settlement. Under Mr. Cavendish, however, remissions were regularly applied for and granted where there was a difficulty in paying, and the settlement was not worked up to in any year. He left the district at the end of 1831, the year of the expiry of the settlement. He writes that he had intended to make the settlement with *patels*, and to give to each tenant a statement showing the amount for which he should be individually responsible.

"His successor collected on the principle established by Mr. Cavendish. Major Speirs did not attempt a settlement. He collected all he could, and the remainder was remitted by Govt. In 1833-34, however, even the pretence of working on the settlement was abandoned. The season was a disastrous one. The *kharif* instalments were collected by an equal division of the scanty produce, and it was proposed to allow the people to keep the *rabi* revenue. In December, 1833 charge was made over to Mr. Edmonstone, who in the following year made a summary settlement with reference to the deteriorated state of the country owing to drought, the demand of which was Rs. 1,19,302. If the villagers did not consent to his terms the revenue was collected Kham at half produce.

"In the cold weather of 1835-36, Mr. Edmonstone proceeded to make a regular settlement, which, as it was subsequently sanctioned for ten years, is generally known by the name of the decennial settlement, and which was reported on 26th May, 1836. He was of opinion

that the district had reached rather than advanced under the previous administration, and he adopted a method of his own for assessment. The villages were measured, and the cultivated area, amounting in all to 36,257 acres, classed into: *Chahi* (well land), 8,989 acres; *talabi* (tank land) 2,180 acres; and *barani* (dry land), 25,088 acres. He then assessed the cash-paying produce (Indian corn and cotton) area at the current money rates at the central market, and estimated the average produce per bigha of other crops. The Government share of one half, except in the case of *patels* and *Mahajans*, he converted into money by the average price current of the previous five years. He thus obtained a rough *jamabandi* amounting to Rs. 1,57,151, and then visited each village and fixed his demand with reference to the past fiscal history, present circumstances, and future capabilities of each estate. No villages were given in farm. Two small ones were held on the system of half produce, as they could not be brought up to his standard; the rest accepted his terms. The amount finally assessed was Rs. 1,27,525 or adding the *kham* villages Rs. 1,29,872.

“Mr. Edmonstone described the people as reckless, improvident, poverty-stricken, and much in debt. They were entirely in the power of the *Bohras*, who furnished no accounts, and the debt to whom ran on from generation to generation. The settlement was made with the headman of each village in the belief that he generally acted in accordance with the wishes of the village community. The incidence of the assessment was Rs. 3.9 an acre, while the unirrigated area was nearly 69 per cent of the cultivated. The settlement returns show 5,621 cultivators, 2,675 non-cultivators 3,185 ploughs, and 1,575 wells.

“Although the assessment of individual villages appears to have been fair and judicious, the great defect of the settlement was the very imperfect and inequitable manner in which the village assessment was distributed over the holdings. Mr. Edmonstone introduced for the first time the principle of joint responsibility of all cultivators. It is evident that a cultivator who is assessed at half his produce in good and bad years alike cannot afford to pay for others who have migrated or given up agriculture. In the first year of the settlement the distribution over the holdings was proved to be quite inequitable, and the people began to clamour for a return to collections from the actual produce. Mr. Edmonstone had left Ajmer at the end of 1836, and his successor proposed to make a fresh distribution of the revenue and to give each cultivator a separate lease specifying what rent he had to pay. As this was tantamount to changing the settlement from *mauzawar* to *ryotwar*, Government would not sanction the proposal. But the villages were

offered the option of returning to direct management, and 41 out of 81 villages accepted it.

"In the meantime Colonel Sutherland became Commissioner. He took great pains to make himself acquainted with everything concerning Ajmer, and his reports on the *Khalsa* administration and on the *istimrardars* are standard papers of reference. He strongly condemned the village assessment system as inapplicable to Ajmer, and looked to the repair and construction of tanks for a remedy. He advocated the mode of assessment which had been carried out by Captain Dixon in Merwara as that suited to the country, and consonant with the wishes of the people. Under this system lands under cotton, maize, sugar-cane and opium were charged with a money rate. Other *rabi* and *kharif* crops were estimated and measured, and one-third of the produce was taken as the Government share by a money assessment fixed according to the average yearly value of produce in the principal neighbouring markets. Land newly broken up paid one-sixth of the produce for the first year, one-fifth for the second, and one-fourth for the third and fourth years, after which the full rate of one-third was charged. A remission in the amount of the share was given to those who constructed embankments and dug new wells.

"It was evident that some remedial measures were necessary. The four years from 1837 to 1841 were years of severe distress, and at the time of Colonel Sutherland's report, January, 1841, the *Khalsa* villages had reached the lowest depths of poverty. Many families had left the district owing to the pressure of revenue which they were unable to pay. The tanks were broken, the wells out of repair, and the people were thoroughly demoralized. They preferred paying half the produce to accepting the reduced assessment of Mr. Edmonstone for these deplorable results the previous settlement were largely responsible. The last and highest of them had an incidence per acre about twice as heavy as that made in the North-West Provinces. With the experience gained in these settlements the Government of the North-West might have concluded that its "trust that the settlement would prove moderate and be realized without distress to the people" was fallacious.

"The success of Major Dixon's administration of Merwara had for some time attracted the attention of Government and the Commissioner, and in February, 1842 he was appointed superintendent of Ajmer, in addition to his other duties as Superintendent of Merwara and Commandant of the Merwara Battalion.

"From the date of his assuming charge a new era commences in the history of the administration of the country. Within the next six

years Rs. 4,52,707 were expended on the construction and repair of embankments. Advances were made for agricultural improvements, and the Superintendent succeeded in infusing a good deal of his personal energy into the people. To enable government to reap a benefit from the new works, sanction was procured to allow such villages as desired it to abandon their engagements. All were invited to return to kham management, and when a tank was made or repaired in one of the few villages which insisted on retaining their leases, a percentage of the cost was levied in addition to the assessment. The rate of collection at the same time was reduced from one-half to two-fifths, and the cash rates were also lowered. On the expiry of the ten years' settlement, the whole district was held kham, and managed as Major Dixon had managed Merwara.

"The system, however, depended for its success largely upon the energy and experience of one man; and was unsuited for general adoption. It was considered expedient to return to the system of village settlements, as the people had learned to recognize the principle of joint responsibility, and their land, from the means of irrigation with which it has been provided possessed a higher and more uniform value than was previously the case. Arrangements were, therefore, made for a revenue survey, and instructions were issued to Major Dixon for the formation of a village settlement. Moderation was inculcated, and the standard to be aimed at was the punctual realisation of a *jama* equal to Mr. Edmonstone's assessment, and yielding over and above that amount a moderate profit on the money invested in tanks and reservoirs. This moderate profit was afterwards put five or six per cent. These orders were followed by a year of severe scarcity, and at one time it was doubtful whether engagements for a fixed period could be entered into. The succeeding year, however, was a favourable one, and the settlement commenced from the *khatif* harvest of 1849.

Col. Dixon's Settlement

"In making his assessment Colonel Dixon was guided chiefly by the experience he had gained of the capabilities of each village while it was held under direct management. His method of assessment was as follows:

"He took Mr. Edmonstone's assessment and added to it six per cent of the sum expended on tanks in that village. This was the standard. If the past history of the village warranted Colonel Dixon in believing that it could be paid, he assessed the village at this amount. If he thought it could pay more he assessed

it at more; if he thought that it could by no possibility pay this amount, he reduced the standard. No rates were worked out till after the assessment, nor was any attempt made to compare the incidence of the revenue in different villages, or to explain its variations. The inequality of the assessment was no doubt tempered by Colonel Dixon's intimate knowledge of the district, but the system necessarily produced inequality. For all practical purposes of assessment the measurement of the villages in Colonel Dixon's time was superfluous. If six per cent of the outlay on the tanks were added to the assessment of Mr. Edmonstone, the amount would be Rs. 1,58,273, and this was the amount proposed as a fair amount to distribute. The highest amount which had ever been collected was in 1847-48, when, at two-thirds the produce, the revenue stood at Rs. 1,67,237, and this included all the cesses. Colonel Dixon's actual assessment, excluding the one per cent road cess, but inclusive of the tank cess of one per cent, which was merely a deduction from the Government revenue set apart for a particular purpose, was Rs. 1,75,756, or adding the assessment which was subsequently made on Nearan and Karanpura, Rs. 1,85,161. The assessment was lighter than Mr. Edmonstone's but the unirrigated area had increased in greater proportion than the irrigated, and the average rate of assessment on a total area, including 28 per cent of irrigation, was Rs. 2-0-3 per acre.

"The best description of the settlement is that given by Colonel Dixon himself in a demi-official letter to Sir Henry Lawrence, dated 25th January, 1856:—"If the season be moderately favourable and the talaos be replenished, the rent will be paid with ease and cheerfulness by the people. If drought ensues, we have been prepared to make such a remission that distress in paying the revenue shall not reach the people. It is necessary to bear in mind that we have given the profits to the people, ourselves bearing the onus of loss. In a country like Ajmer-Merwara, where the seasons are so extremely irregular, to burden the zamindars with arrears of rent on account of what was not produced would check the energies of the people, and render them less industrious than they now are, when they know we shall only claim the rent or a portion of it, when it has been assured to them by Providence. To have made the jama less would have been to have left the zamindars only partially employed, while in a season of scarcity we must still have relaxed the demand. "This extract clearly sets forth the nature of the settlement. It was not intended to be an equal annual jama to be collected in all years, except what in other parts of India would be called famine years, but the assessment was pitched at the highest

amount that Colonel Dixon believed should be collected in good years, and he was prepared to apply for remissions whenever they were required.

"The people accepted the settlement with reluctance, but as proposed, it was sanctioned for 21 years. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, desired it to be understood "that except after report to Government and special sanction, no other penalty was to be attached to the non-fulfilment of the settlement contract than annulment of the lease and return to kham management." The settlement thus sanctioned was a *mauzawar* settlement only in name, and the system of collection adopted by Colonel Dixon rendered it practically a *ryotwari* one. Before the instalments were due the villages were divided into circles and a *chaprasi* was appointed for each circle. It was the duty of this official in company with the *patel* and *patwari*, to collect from each individual tenant the sum recorded against his name in the *patwari*'s register. If the cultivator himself could not pay, the bania with whom he kept his accounts was called up and the money generally produced. When the revenue could not be collected, Colonel Dixon made up his mind as to how much should be remitted about the month of May, and applied for sanction for the remission of the amount proposed. It was a matter of common tradition in the district that when the revenue of any village was found to come in with difficulty, the Deputy Collector was sent out and arranged for a re-distribution of the assessment. Such a mode of administration, though the best suited to the district and perfectly consonant with the wishes of the people, differed very considerably from the *mauzawar* system, and could only succeed where the Collector was intimately acquainted with the resource of each village.

"Having completed the settlement of Ajmer, Colonel Dixon took up the assessment of Merwara. He was embarrassed with no instructions, as he was rightly considered the best judge of what should be done. He went into Merwara in the cold weather of 1849-50 and reported his settlement of the district on the 27th September 1850. It was sanctioned for 20 years at a net demand of Rs. 1,81,751 and a gross demand of Rs. 1,88,742. The incidence of the assessment was Rs. 2-11-2 per acre on an area which included 38 per cent of irrigation.

"For several years after the settlement there was a succession of favourable seasons, and remissions for which Colonel Dixon had to apply were but small in amount. Many tanks and wells were made by the people themselves, and the country was prosperous and contented. With Colonel Dixon's death, however, in 1857, the era of

material improvement may be said to close, and the era of inflexible realization of revenue commenced. The principle of his settlement was forgotten, and the idea gradually gained ground that the assessment was an equal annual demand to be collected in full each year.

"An account of the further progress of the settlement is given by Captain J.C. Brooke, the first Deputy Commissioner of Ajmer, in his report of the 24th July 1858. He found that there had been no *banchh* or distribution of deficiencies caused by defaulters over the village community since the settlement. No account has been kept of the profits of common land, and any remissions received from the state were appropriated by the whole village, giving a very small modicum of relief to those really requiring it. The *patwaris* were miserably paid, and generally acted as money-lenders to the people. Captain Brooke revised the *patwaris*' establishment, and doubled up the smaller villages so as to enable a more fitting remuneration to be given to those who undertook the duties. He called attention to the manner in which land submerged in the beds of tanks had been assessed at high rates, and proposed to strike out of the settlement all lands liable to constant submersion, and to take revenue from them only when they should be cultivated. He was of opinion that the settlement had pressed heavily, and showed that the price of wheat and barley had fallen 50 per cent, below what they were for the three years preceding the settlement. Many of his suggestions were valuable, but nothing was done.

"Major Lloyed, Deputy Commissioner in 1860, was struck by signs of growing prosperity, but it is significant that five villages had come under *kham* management in Ajmer and seven in Beawar. Major Lloyed arranged for a systematic revision of the settlement records and a fresh distribution of the revenue. But the season of 1860 was a bad one, and remissions and suspensions were necessary in most estates. The work of re-distribution of the revenue was held in abeyance and never recommenced. Thereafter until 1867 the revenue was collected in full. In 1866 an important change was introduced into the system of collecting the revenue. The whole revenue was ordered to be collected from the headmen alone, and the system initiated by Colonel Dixon was abolished.

"In 1868-69 came the great famine, the most disastrous since the one of 1812. In 1869 the Deputy Commissioner reported that the state of apathy and demoralization of the people was such that nothing availed for the collection of revenue save active coercive measures. In Merwara it was found utterly impossible to collect the revenue

during the famine years, and eventually the arrears were remitted. A summary settlement was made for Merwara, from the year 1872-73, which was at a reduction of 32 per cent on the settlement demand.

Mr. La Touche's Settlement

"In 1871, as the existing settlement's were nearing their term of expiry, Mr. J. D. La-Touche was appointed to make a new settlement of the districts. Operations began with a complete village survey of the three tahsils of Ajmer, Beawar and Todgarh, which was finally completed in 1873. Various improvements were introduced into the settlement registers, one of the most notable being that the fields were numbred in the *khasra* so as to show the various holdings as recorded in the *khatuni*. The system of assessment also had distinctive features, as compared with those of previous settlements. Up to that time the assessments had never been founded on or checked by rates, but had been exclusively based on the history of past collection. Rates for the various kinds of land had never been worked out from the total assessment on a tract, nor had the assessment on a village been decided by inductive process from the rates decided for lands. The assessment of each individual village had been a deductive guess on the part of the assessing officer.

"The principle now to be followed was laid down in the instructions from Government. The Settlement Officer was first to divide the villages to be assessed into groups, so as to avoid applying a uniform rate to those of which the characteristics were markedly different. In every group he was then to select some specimen villages, in which the records of the Deputy Commissioner's office and local enquiry would show him that the revenue had been paid with a fair amount of ease. From the statistics of these specimen villages he was then to work out fair rates for the different kinds of soil. These soil rates were then to be applied to the remaining villages, after carefully examining the accounts of past collections and remissions in the villages to see if the amount indicated by the soil rates could fairly be paid. In deciding thus, he was not to consider years of exceptional drought, extra-ordinary bad seasons being left to be dealt with by the application of extraordinary remedies. In order partly to surmount the difficulty of an equal annual demand being assessed in a tract where the seasons are so irregular, water revenue was assessed separately from the land revenue on the irrigated aspect. The assessment on the dry area included the full assessment on well land, but in each village where the tanks failed to fill, the water revenue was to be proportionately remitted each year.

"Tanks were divided into classes according to their irrigating capacity, and a lump sum was fixed as the assessment of each tank. This was to be made good from the fields actually irrigated in each year unless its incidence on the irrigated area exceeded a certain fixed maximum or fell below a certain fixed minimum. When the incidence maximum per acre was exceeded, only the maximum was charged and the balance remitted; when the incidence per acre fell below the minimum, the minimum rate was charged and the excess over the total lump sum was credited to Government. A certain amount of stability was thus secured for the water revenue. Extended irrigation was also encouraged, as within the minimum the more the water was economized and spread, the less per acre each cultivator had to pay. The total revenue thus fixed in Ajmer-Merwara amounted to Rs. 55,432. Lands were divided into *talabi* irrigated from tanks and *abi* land in the dry beds of tanks. The maximum, minimum and average rates for *talabi* land per acre at this settlement were Rs. 5-5, Rs. 1-9, and Rs. 3-8 respectively. For *abi* lands the figures were Rs. 1-14, Rs. 1-4, and Rs. 1-9.

"Including the water rates the total net land revenue demand amounted to Rs. 2,61,557, of which Ajmer contributed Rs. 1,42,896 and Merwara Rs. 1,18,661. Owing to a new arrangement for the collection of cesses, this net amount cannot be compared with the previous demand of Colonel Dixon. By the new system six per cent was deducted from the Government demand five per cent being allowed as the pay of *lambardars* and one per cent as the pay of *zaildars* or circle headmen, the remainder constituting the net Government demand. To this was added 10 per cent, $3\frac{1}{8}$ per cent belonging to the District Funds, and $6\frac{7}{8}$ per cent belonging to the *Patwari Funds*. The gross demand exclusive of this 10 per cent addition may be compared with Colonel Dixon's figures. Doing so, we find that in Ajmer the assessment was a reduction of 14 per cent on Colonel Dixon's settlement and in Merwara of 25 per cent. For Ajmer-Merwara the total demand of Colonel Dixon was Rs. 3,56,231, as compared to Rs. 2,86,548 under Mr. La Touche's settlement. The total assessable area was 3,11,314 acres and the average holding 5.32 acres.

"The principle of joint responsibility was not formally abolished, but one of the main objects of the settlement was to reduce its evils to a minimum. All well-known and recognised divisions of a village were allowed to choose a headman, and each cultivator was permitted the option of deciding through which headman would pay his revenue. The total amount payable through each *patel* was added up, and

a list of each headman's constituents given to the headman and filed with the settlement record. In this way the headmen became the strictly representative body that they ought to be.

"The settlement was sanctioned for ten years and expired in 1884. The period, though marked by severe droughts in 1877 and 1878, was on the whole a series of average years, and under the moderate assessment of the settlement, the district made substantial progress. In 1877 the rainfall did not come up to 12 inches, and yet the revenue was paid without any difficulty. All but Rs. 5,857 were collected within the year, and Rs. 1,117 only remitted. Between 1880 and 1884 only Rs. 655 had to be remitted in Ajmer and Rs. 591 in Merwara. Combined with the progress and prosperity of the district, these figures give ample proof of the general success of the settlement.

Mr. Whiteway's Settlement

"In view of the precarious condition of the climate they considered that it would be unwise and dangerous to venture upon any material enhancements of a permanent character. In the circumstances a revision of assessment might not have been necessary at all, had not Government been anxious to take the opportunity of placing the assessment of the province upon such a footing that any future revisions that might be required be affected on the basis of existing records, upon known principles, and without any addition to the existing establishments of the districts. To secure these objects thoroughly, correct maps and records were to be prepared and a proper system of maintaining up to date such records established. It was further desired to introduce into the revenue system the principles of suspensions and remissions as approved by Government.

"The chief innovation in the new settlement was the division of the districts into fluctuating and non-fluctuating areas. It was an extension of the principle already introduced by the previous settlement in the case of the water rate on tank irrigated areas, and its object was the same, to surmount the difficulty of assessing an equal annual demand upon tracts liable to the constant vicissitudes of indifferent seasons. The arrangement, as sanctioned, refers the revenue to dry rate which can at a future time, should the rise in prices warrant the change, be raised; while, whenever a revision of the revenue is decided on, such revision will merely consist in raising the standard cultivated area, consequently the standard revenue. On the basis of the assessment rates of the other classes of soil, which are multiples of the assessment dry rate, the areas irrigated from wells or tanks can

be expressed in terms of the dry rate. That is to say, if the well rate be ten times the dry rate, then a well-irrigated acre is worth ten dry acres. The total cultivated area of a village, referred by these means to the dry rate, is called the dry unit area. The dry rate to which the revenue is referred is not fixed, but varies within certain limits, and the rate of the year is determined by the standard revenue divided by the dry unit area. When the rate exceeds the maximum, only the maximum is taken and the balance of the revenue is remitted, while when the rate falls below the minimum the minimum is taken and the balance credited to Government. The advantages of the system are that Government and the zamindar share equally in the prosperity of good years and losses of calamitous ones. The fluctuating system was applied only to the villages considered most liable to scarcity. In a tract like Ajmer-Merwara such a distinction was difficult to make. According to the final result of the settlement there were no fluctuating villages in Merwara. In the Ajmer tahsil out of 142 villages, 61 were assessed as fluctuating. Of these 26 were situated in the Gangwana circle and 23 in the Ram-sar circle. The system required constant supervision on the part of superior officers, and to it was largely due to appointment of a Revenue Extra Assistant Commissioner sometime later.

"In the non-fluctuating villages all increase of cultivation was assessed at the dry rates of the previous settlement, and no increase of irrigated area under wells was to be assessed at well rates. All increase of irrigation from Government tanks, or cultivation in the bed of such tanks, was assessed at tank and *abi* rates respectively. But the rates paid for irrigation from such tanks and those paid for bed cultivation were revised and raised where necessary. The Settlement Officer also went into the question of tank improvement, and suggested rules for their better management.

"The final result of the settlement showed a total assessment of Rs. 2,98,927 as compared with Rs. 2,78,281 of Mr. La Touche's settlement. The percentage of increase was 8.9 in Ajmer, 4.8 in Beawar, and 6.9 in Todgarh, without considering the fact that areas in the bed of tanks amounting to 7,176 acres were excluded from the fixed assessed area, and made variable to pay a certain rate on the yearly cultivation. Out of the total assessment, Rs. 61,147 represented the share from the variable villages in Ajmer.

"The cultivated area showed a satisfactory advance upon the figures of the previous settlement. Land under well irrigation had increased

by 6,304 acres, or 18.9 per cent. In dry cultivation the increase was 12,270 acres, or 11.9 per cent. The total increase of cultivation over the area assessed at Mr. La Touche's assessment was 10.7 per cent. The number of proprietors had increased by 12 per cent and that of cultivators decreased by 42 per cent. Taking only the cultivated and fallow land and omitting waste, the average holding was, in Ajmer 7.9 acres, in Beawar 3.1 acres, and in Todgarh 1.6 acres."

"Throughout the district the maximum assessment per acre on land irrigated from wells (*chahi*) was Rs. 8-2 and the minimum Rs. 1-8. In tanks land (*talabi*) the maximum was Rs. 6 per acre and the minimum Rs. 1. In tank bed land (*abi*) the minimum was As. 8, but the maximum rose to Rs. 6-12 per acre. In dry crop land (*barani*) the assessment varied from a maximum of Rs. 1.4 to a minimum of three annas nine pies per acre. As a rule the rates were highest in the Ajmer and Todgarh tahsils."

The settlement was sanctioned for 20 years, though it continued up to 1909 with certain modifications in the case of the variably assessed villages.

Mr. Lupton's Settlement

The system of variable assessment as proposed by Mr. Whiteway did not work properly. In 1893, therefore, important modifications were made in it. The sliding rate was got rid of with its standard area and standard revenue. The assessing rate was applied to the actual cultivated area of the moment by means of the soil proportions in dry units. Up to the rate of this modification, the number of villages under variable assessment, had fallen from 61 to 40. The old uncertainty as to the assessment disappeared, as now each cultivator knew exactly what he would have to pay on each field he cropped.

Settlement operations started in 1906 and were completed in 1910. Mr. Lupton prepared new maps and *Khasras* and revised the register of proprietors both of revenue paying and revenue free lands, as the existing ones had become out of date. Earlier the district authorities had tried to work on a system of recording changes on separate slips, but these slips were kept up neither completely nor accurately. It was proposed that the *mauzawar* or village registers, in which the main agricultural figures of the year were to be entered so as to form a progressive record of each village's condition from year to year, be kept up by the Registrar Girdawars and not by the Patwaris.

Cultivation and irrigation both expanded during the years 1874 to 1885-86; but during the expiring settlement period both had averaged appreciably before the assessment standard of even 1874. In 1907-08, a year of large areas both total and irrigated, the irrigated area was 28.4 per cent of the total cultivated but the average, outside famine years had been 24.4 only. The average cultivated area in the past 18 years has been as follows:—

	Percent of the Whole
Ajmer Tahsil 1,11,318 acres	31.7
Beawar Tahsil 48,336 acres	25.3
Todgarh Tahsil 23,635 acres	15.3

There being no cash rents in the tract, the assessments could not be based on actual cash rentals and average incomes calculated therefrom. Rents were all taken in kind by a share of the produce, and the assets on which the assessments could be based had, therefore, to be deduced by calculating the average value of the total produce and of the share that went to the land owner. The method actually employed was to select in each tahsil a number of years out of the last 10 or 11, representing a reasonably fair average set of years of not exceptional drought. From their *Khasras* were then extracted soil by soil and crop by crop all their areas and out turns; the latter then were valued at the actual prices, the various sets of figures of areas and valuations were then averaged for each assessment circle, the average annual valuation of the gross produce, being thus obtained. A reduction was then made of 20 per cent to allow for the difference between retail and harvest prices and deduction of 10 per cent on account of the payments made from the fields or the threshing floors to the village servants. The result then gave the harvest valuation. The average annual value of the crop was estimated at Rs. 23,96,808 for a produce of 8,73,897 maunds.

Mr. Lupton reduced the demand for the whole tract to Rs. 2,79,834; of which Rs. 39,988 represented the estimated average water revenue from 12,383 acres under the second class variable tanks and Rs. 12,369 as the income from first class crop rate tanks and variable tank-beds; while the rest Rs. 2,27,477 was all fixed revenue. The new revenues were in general a reduction from the old shared by both heads fixed and variable. That under variable, was due to the estimate being made on the assumption that in future the actual irrigated area will

only be assessed to the water charge. The fixed demand assessed, was a reduction of $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent from those assessed at last settlement and 10 per cent below the actual average yearly demand. It was even three per cent below the actual collections. *Jamas* were reduced to fit deteriorated average conditions in the case of deserving *Khalsa* villages.

Though, the demand at the previous settlement was moderate yet the tract being exceptionally precarious, remissions exceeding Rs. 6,000 in each case (variable and fixed), had to be granted in 11 out of 21 years.

Sakhtawat Settlement

The third regular settlement of the district was started by Shri A. K. Sharma in 1940 and completed by Shri Lal Sinha Sakhtawat in 1947. Out of the 407 villages in the district, 92 were completely and five partially resurveyed. In the remaining 310 villages a thorough correction of records was made. Patwari circles were also reallocated.

The average cultivated area of the last 19 years was 1,49,534 acres. The cultivated area of the time of the settlement was 1,48,059 acres and had fallen by 19,906 acres or 11 per cent since the last settlement. The decrease is rather apparent than real, being partly due to the difference in the mode of record and partly, to the year of record being a lean year. The irrigated area was 39,432 acres or 26.6 per cent of the cultivated area. The figures showed a marked increase in the *kharif* area since the last settlement. The proportion of *kharif* and *rabi* crops worked out to 85.8 and 28.2 per cent of the total cropped area as against 77.7 and 35.5 per cent at the last settlement. The average area per proprietor decreased to 2.4 from 3.6 acres during the same period.

A departure was made from the system adopted at the previous settlement for determining rates by fixing revenue rates directly.

A large number of *Khewatdars*, especially of the Beawar tahsil, mistook rent rates for revenue rates, and raised a large number of objections. The Government of India, after hearing them confirmed the rates but allowed the following concessions at the time of the final assessment of *mahals*:

1. In calculating the net assets, a deduction of 10 per cent was allowed for payment to menials.

2. The price of *bhusa* and straw was not to be taken into consideration in the assessment of revenue.
3. A *Khudkasht* allowance varying from five to 25 per cent was allowed.
4. Since the non-registration of wells was mainly due to the illiteracy of the *Khewatdars*, full improvement allowance was allowed for all new works.
5. The new fallow area was not to be assessed whenever this was justifiable.

All the assessments of *thoks* (*mahals*), which had been completed long before, were revised. Circle rates were raised in 27 *thoks* and lowered in 24 *thoks*. The total area assessed was 1,49,819 acres.

In the new settlement, soil classification was made fieldwise as the quality of soil changed from field to field. Previous classification of *chahi*, *talabi*, *abi* and *barani* was retained, but each was sub-divided into four classes of *Chahi*, four of *Talabi*, three of *Abi* and four of *Barani* in order to make the soil classification as accurate as possible. Besides, one class of *Abi* variables was also used. The percentage of areas under different types was as follows: *Chahi*-21, *Talabi*-9, *Abi*-10 and *Barani*-60. The rates proposed for various classes of soil were: *Chahi*, Rs. 6-11 to Rs. 1-4; *Talabi* Rs. 2.00 to Rs. 0-14; *Abi* Rs. 3.0 to Rs. 1-3; and, *Barani*, Rs. 1-1 to Rs. 0-5,

The average annual value of the crop was estimated at Rs. 31,34,390 for a produce of 9,04,452 maunds. The total net assets of the *Khalsa* area of the district were Rs. 5,30,452. The new revenue fixed was Rs. 2,03,920, an increase of Rs. 20,107 or 10.9 per cent over the expiring period. The term of settlement was fixed for 20 years.

Istimarari Estates Settlement

Although the *Khalsa* villages have been subjected to thorough and regular operations ever since the cession of Ajmer to the British East India Company in 1818, no systematic survey of *istimarari* villages was undertaken before 1940. An earlier attempt made in 1883, was of not much use. The Istimarari Area Committee of 1933 made a thorough survey of these villages and adopted the following classification for the culturable land:

A Class:	Abi and Mal land
B Class:	Talabi and Chahi land
C Class:	Barani land

The Committee recommended the abolition of all the cesses in the form of 'negs'. It clearly defined the lines on which the lands were to be administered and the tenants to be treated. The commission preserved certain customary tributes which *istimrardars* were anxious to preserve as the outward marks of esteem and respect of tenants for their overlords. These were:

- (a) Kansa
- (b) Chaonri
- (c) Neota and
- (d) Ram Ram

The survey of 1940 was carried out without the approval of the government. New operations were started in 1950 after coming into force of the Ajmer Tenancy and Land Records Act 1950. In 1950, the Ajmer Tenancy and Land Records Act came into force protecting the rights of the cultivators and restricting the age-long unwritten powers of the landlords. Soon afterwards survey and record operations were started in the *Istimrari* villages.

The *Istimrari* estates were paying practically the same revenue upto 1953 as had been assessed on them by the Marathas before 1818. The amount originally fixed by Marathas on individual was fixed arbitrarily without taking into account the rental or letting value of the land. These amounts were payable in lieu of the maintenance and supply of armed forces and discharging other duties to the sovereign power. The *istimrardars*, on the other hand, were left free to manage their own affairs.

The following is the classified list of *istimrardars* in Ajmer district :

Classified list of the *Istimrardars* in Ajmer District

I Class (Tazimi *Istimrardars*)

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 1. Bhinai | 5. Junia |
| 2. Sawar | 6. Deolia Kalan |
| 3. Masuda | 7. Kherwa |
| 4. Pisangan | 8. Bandanwara |

II Class (Tazimi Istimrardars)

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 1. Mehrun Kalan | 5. Tantoti |
| 2. Para | 6. Barli |
| 3. Baghera | 7. Baghsuri |
| 4. Govindgarh | |

III Class (Non-Tazimi Istimrardars)

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Kadera | 2. Goclla |
|-----------|-----------|

IV Class (Non-Tazimi Istimrardars)

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Manoharpur | 33. Nandsi |
| 2. Manda | 34. Richmalian (Bhinai) |
| 3. Lasania | 35. Salari |
| 4. Kalahera | 36. Kaibiania |
| 5. Kherouj | 37. Kerote |
| 6. Deolia Khurd | 38. Kurthal |
| 7. Tiswaria | 39. Kauria Kalam |
| 8. Nimode | 40. Jethpura |
| 9. Sankeria | 41. Santola |
| 10. Khawas | 42. Richmalian |
| 11. Pranhera | 43. Sithan |
| 12. Moeda Khurd | 44. Shergarh |
| 13. Koda | 45. Kclu |
| 14. Sadura | 46. Kesarpura |
| 15. Gulgaon | 47. Akrol |
| 16. Nasun | 48. Lalawas |
| 17. Bhawani Khara | 49. Jamola |
| 18. Deogarh | 50. Sheopuri |
| 19. Mewaria | 51. Sethana |
| 20. Sarana | 52. Lamba |
| 21. Sholian | 53. Nagar |
| 22. Awargarh | 54. Sakrani |
| 23. Jotayan | 55. Bubain |
| 24. Padlia | 56. Asan |
| 25. Kalyanpura | 57. Deokheri |
| 26. Baori | 58. Basundri |
| 27. Arwar | 59. Chandthali |
| 28. Shokli | 60. Chosla |
| 29. Raghunathgarh | 61. Tankowas |
| 30. Gudhakalan | 62. Mehrun Khurd |
| 31. Kanai Khurd | 63. Rajpura Bandawas |
| 32. Nagola | 64. Piplaj |

V Class (Minor Istimrardars)

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| 1. Rajosi | 4. Ajeysar |
| 2. Mansar | 5. Karel |
| 3. Kharekri | 6. Kotri |

These istimrari estates were grouped into four divisions on the basis of physical features, drainage, soil characteristics and contiguity. The potentialities of each differed from the others and for administrative purposes also, they were being treated as four different tracts. So, the rent rate reports of 1953 were prepared for each tract separately.

Rental System

Rent throughout the Istimrari Estates were paid only for the actual cultivated area from year to year. Until a few years back, this was actually measured at each harvest and rent was assessed by a division of the produce on the threshing floor.

Generally, the *Kharif* crop was assessed at a fixed rate per Bigha, known as 'BIGHORI'. The *Rabi* crop was almost always assessed at a share of the produce. The garden crops were assessed at a slightly higher rate.

The landlord's share used to range from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the produce before 1950. But now it has been fixed at $\frac{1}{5}$ for hereditary and non-occupancy holdings, $\frac{1}{6}$ th for occupancy holdings and $\frac{1}{8}$ th for proprietary holdings under the new Tenancy Act of 1950. The *bighori* rate ranges from Re. 1 for *Bajra* to Rs. 5 for maize per bigha.

The method of assessing *Barani* land was by 'BANTA' or a share of produce. The rental system prevalent in the tract was, thus, kind-cum-Bighori. It was not directly susceptible to rise and fall in prices.

The nature of the rental system prevailing in the tract was such that rents could be collected without the help of maps or other records. In "LATA" (threshing floor collection), the produce of different fields was heaped together crop-wise without any regard to the nature of the tenancy under which such fields were held by a single cultivator. The landlord's share was then separated from the heap after weighment. No rent accounts were kept by the landlord.

The soil classification was split up into more convenient units according to the quality of the soil. Irrigated soil was classified into *Bari*, *Chahi* and *Talabi* and their sub-divisions and unirrigated into

Gomia, Mal, Abi, Barani and Chair mumkin, each with its further sub-divisions.

The rent rates proposed varied for the different classes of soil as follows:

Bari Rs. 24 per acre to Rs. 8 per acre.
 Chahi A Rs. 20 per acre to Rs. 5 per acre.
 Chahi I Rs. 18 per acre to Rs. 4.8 per acre.
 Chahi II Rs. 16 per acre to Rs. 4.4 per acre.
 Chahi III Rs. 12 per acre to Rs. 2.2 per acre.
 Talabi I Rs. 9.0 per acre to Rs. 3.9 per acre.
 Talabi II Rs. 6.0 per acre to Rs. 2.2 per acre.
 Talabi III Rs. 3.0 per acre to Rs. 1.1 per acre.
 Gomia I Rs. 6.8 per acre to Rs. 5.0 per acre.
 Gomia II Rs. 5.1 per acre to Rs. 1.8 per acre.
 Mal I Rs. 4.7 per acre to Rs. 3.2 per acre.
 Mal II Rs. 3.8 per acre to Rs. 1.8 per acre.
 Mal III Rs. 2.1 per acre to Rs. 0.8 per acre.
 Abi I Rs. 4.5 per acre to Rs. 2.2 per acre.
 Abi II Rs. 2.6 per acre to Rs. 1.5 per acre.
 Abi III Rs. 1.1 per acre to Rs. 0.7 per acre.
 Barani II Rs. 1.7 per acre to Rs. 0.8 per acre.
 Barani II Rs. 1.7 per acre to Rs. 0.8 per acre.
 Barani III Rs. 0.8 per acre to Rs. 0.4 per acre.
 Beer Rs. 1.3 per acre to Rs. 0.4 per acre.

It was recommended that the term of proposed rates be for ten years so as to coincide with the expiry of the term of last settlement for the *Khalsa* areas. The next settlement would then cover the whole of the district.

The revenue proposed for the arca was as follows:

	Estimated Revenue	Gross Assets
Eastern Kekri	Rs. 2,33,910	Rs. 5,84,776
Western Kekri	Rs. 1,71,345	Rs. 4,28,378
Beawar	Rs. 97,535	Rs. 3,43,836
Ajmer	Rs. 49,980	Rs. 1,24,956
TOTAL	Rs. 5,52,770	Rs. 13,81,946

Assessment of the Jagir Village

A rent-rate report of the Jagir villages of Ajmer district was prepared in 1954. There were 51 jagir villages covering an area of 1,42,966 acres of 223.4 sq. miles in the tract.

Since the last operations, which concluded in 1947, the Jagir villages made considerable progress. The area under well irrigation greatly increased and recorded a rise of 42.6 per cent over the *Chahi* area of the last settlement. The average irrigated area also increased by about 38.3 per cent and the average cultivated area by seven per cent. The *Do-fasli* area showed an increase of 19.1 per cent. The population went up by 14.5 per cent and the prices were 155 per cent higher than those prevailing at the last settlement.

Hence, a rise in the existing rates were quite justified. But as the cultivators had been used to a *batai* system of rent, and, in order that he may accept the change from kind to cash rent cheerfully and without murmur, a lower level was aimed at.

The Jagir villages are intertwined and mixed up with the *Khalsa* ones. The agricultural economy follows the same pattern in both these categories of villages and the problems of the cultivators are identical. Application of *Khalsa* rates in such areas would have been justified but in actual effect the proposed rates were much lower.

Liberal deductions (33.3 per cent) were made in fixing the average yields and the unit values finally selected were also lower than those adopted previously for the same of similar circles. As compared to 19 per cent during the previous operations, the over all deductions by way of concessions to cover cost of production, difference between retail and cultivator's actual selling prices, instability of cultivation etc. were not less than 32 per cent in any circle.

The total cultivated area of all the villages, was 36,997 acres or 26 per cent of the total area. The irrigated area was restricted to 12,303 acres only or 33.3 per cent of the cultivated area. The total assessed area was 46,690 acres. The gross total assets of the area were Rs. 1,60,729. The revenue was proposed at 40 per cent of the gross assets, i.e., Rs. 64,290.

The following table shows rents fixed for different type of soils—

		(Rates per Bigha)
Bari	Rs. 7/15/6	to Rs. 2/15/-
Chahi A	Rs. 6/10/3	to Rs. 2/9/6
Chahi I	Rs. 6/5/-	to Rs. 2/5/-
Chahi II	Rs. 3/11/-	to Rs. 1/12/-
Chahi III	Rs. 1/12/-	to Rs. -/14/-
Talabi I	Rs. 3/3/-	to Rs. 1/2/6
Talabi II	Rs. 1/14/6	to Rs. -/14/-
Talabi III	Rs. -/15/6	to Rs. -/7/-
Gormia I	Rs. 2/5/-	to Rs. 1/4/-
Gormia II	Rs. 1/13/6	to Rs. -/15/-
Abi I	Rs. 4/-/-	to Rs. -/14/-
Abi II	Rs. 2/10/3	to Rs. -/9/-
Abi III	Rs. 1/2/6	to Rs. -/3/3
Barani I	Rs. 1/-/-	to Rs. -/7/-
Barani II	Rs. -/10/3	to Rs. -/5/-
Barani III	Rs. -/4/6	to Rs. -/2/-
Beer	Rs. -/7/-	to Rs. -/3/3

Land Management

Watson writing in 1904 says about the land management, "The land tenures of Ajmer are, as might be expected, entirely analogous to those prevailing in the adjacent Native States, and though they have been often misunderstood, yet the *vis inertiae* of the province has sufficed to prevent their being interfered with, except in the one instance of the *mauzahwar* settlement of 1850. The soil are broadly divided into two classes; *khalsa*, or the private domain of the crown; and *zamindari*, or land held in estates or baronies by feudal chiefs who were originally under an obligation of military service, but who now hold an *istimrar* tenure. *Khalsa* land again might be alienated by Crown, either as an endowment of a religious institution, or as a reward for service to an individual and his heirs. Such grants, when they comprised a whole village or half a village, are termed *Jagirs* and fifty one whole villages and three half villages have been alienated in this way."

Khalsa

"The basis of the land system in Ajmer is, that the State is in its *Khalsa* lands the immediate and actual proprietor, standing in the same relation to the cultivators of the soil as the feudal chiefs do to

the tenants on their estates. The *Jagirdars*, who are assignees of the rights of the State, have the same rights as the State itself.

"From ancient times, however, it has been the custom in the *Khalsa* land of Ajmer that those who permanently improved land by sinking wells and constructing embankments for the storage of water, acquired thereby certain rights in the soil so improved. These rights are summed up and contained in the term *biswahdari*, a name which is synonymous with the term *bapota* in Mewar and Marwar, and with the term *miras* in Southern India, both of the latter words signifying "heritable land". A cultivator who had thus expended capital was considered protected from ejectment as long as he paid the customary share of the produce of the improved land, and he had a right to sell, mortgage, or make gifts of the well or embankment which had been created by his capital or labour. The transfer of the well or the embankment carried with it the transfer of the improved land. These privileges were hereditary, and the sum of them practically constitutes proprietary right. Hence the term *biswahdar* came to mean owner, and a right of ownership gradually grew up in permanently improved land".

"In a district like Ajmer, where the rainfall is so precarious, un-irrigated land was hardly regarded as of any value. The State was considered owner of this as well as of the waste. A cultivator without a well, or at any rate an embankment, was looked on as, and must always be, a waif with no tie to bind him to the village where he may reside. No man, in fact, cultivated the same un-irrigated fields continuously, the village boundaries were undefined, there was always more un-irrigated land round a village than could be cultivated by the number of ploughs, the State exercised the right of locating new hamlets and new tenants, of giving leases to strangers who were willing to improve the land, and of collecting dues for the privilege of grazing over the waste from all tenants, whether *biswahdars* or not.

The first two superintendents of Ajmer were of the opinion that waste lands were the property of the State. Their successor, whose experience was gained in the North-West Provinces, considered them to belong to the village community. Mr. Edmonstone, who made a ten years' settlement in 1835, investigated the question, and was clearly of opinion that the State was the owner.

"When Colonel Dixon commenced the construction of his tank embankments in 1842, he acted as steward to a great estate. He founded hamlets where he thought fit, he gave leases at privileged

rates to those who were willing to dig wells, and distributed the lands under the new tanks to strangers whom he located in hamlets in the waste. In no instance did the old *biswahdars* imagine that their rights were being invaded, nor did they consider themselves entitled to any rent from the new comers. The latter had the same rights as to sale and mortgage of improved land as the old *biswahdars*.

“Such was the tenure of the *Khalsa* land of Ajmer till the year 1849, when the village boundaries were for the first time demarcated, and under the orders of Mr. Thomson a village settlement was introduced. This settlement effected a radical change in the tenure. It transformed the cultivating communities of the *Khalsa*, each member of which had certain rights in improved land, but who, as a community, possessed no rights at all, into *bhyāchara* proprietary bodies. The essence of the *mauzawar* system is, that a defined area of land—that, namely, which is enclosed within the village boundaries—is declared to be the property of the village community, and the community consists of all those who are recorded as owners of land in the village. The change, however, was unmarked at the time, and was only slowly appreciated by the people. In many cases where Colonel Dixon established a new hamlet, he assessed it separately from the parent village i.e., the revenue assessed on each resident of the hamlet was added up and announced to the headman of the hamlet. The waste remained the common property of the parent village and of the hamlets. In 1867 these hamlets were formed into distinct villages, the waste adjacent to the hamlet being attached to it. The *biswahdars* of the parent village retained no right over this land, nor do they imagine that they possess any. In this way there were 195 *Khalsa* villages in Ajmer 1909, against 85 at the time of Colonel Dixon’s settlement.

“Until the *mauzawar* system of 1850, the tenure in the *Khalsa* was *ryotwari*. The State owned the land, but allowed certain rights to tenants who had spent capital on permanent improvements, in the land so improved. This collection of rights gradually came to be considered proprietary rights, and since 1850 the State had abandoned its exclusive and undisputed right of ownership over unimproved land.

Istimrar

“The tenure of the feudal chiefs was originally identical with that of the Chiefs in the Native States of Rajputana. The estates were *Jagirs* held on condition of military service, and liable to various feudal incidents. Colonel Tod, in his *Rajasthan*, Volume I, page 167, thus sums up the result of his enquiries into the tenure:—‘A grant of an

estate is for the life of the holder, with inheritance for his offspring in lineal descent or adoption, with the sanction of the Prince, and resumable for crime or incapacity; this reversion and power of resumption being marked by the usual ceremonies on each lapse of the grantee, of sequestration (*zabti*), of relief (*nazarana*), of homage and investiture of the heir."

The above is an exact and realistic description of the original tenure of the mass of the *istimrar* estates in Ajmer. The grants were life-grants, but like all similar tenures, they tended to become hereditary. None of these estates ever paid revenue till the time of the Marathas in 1755 A.D., but were held on condition of military service. The Marathas, however, wanted money more than service and assessed a sum upon each estate, presumably bearing some relation to the number of horse and foot soldiers which the Chief had been liable to furnish. Naturally, however, the assessment was very unequal, as a much larger proportion of their income was taken from the weaker chiefs than from the more powerful *thakurs* whom it might have been difficult to coerce. On the cession of the district in 1818 A.D., the *talukdars* were found paying a certain sum under the denomination of *mamla* or *aen*, and a number of extra cesses, which amounted on the whole to half as much as the *mamla*. These extra cesses were collected till the year 1841, when, on the representation of Col. Sutherland, Commissioner of Ajmer, they were abandoned. In 1830, 1839 and 1841 the Government of India had declared that the estates were liable to re-assessment, and had given explicit orders for their re-assessment, but these orders were not acted upon, nor apparently communicated to those concerned. The chiefs who at a very early period had acquired the title of *istimrardars*, no doubt, considered themselves as holders at a fixed and permanent quit-rent. This belief of theirs was strengthened by the action of Government in 1841, when all extra cesses were remitted avowedly on the ground that they were "unhallowed Maratha exactions"; and the demand of the State was limited to the amount which had been assessed by the Marathas nearly a century before. Finally, in 1873, Government consented to waive its right in the matter of re-assessment, and to declare the present assessments of the chiefs to be fixed in perpetuity. This concession was accompanied by declaration of the liability of the estates to pay *nazarana* on successions, and the conditions were incorporated in the *sanad* which was granted to each of them.

In 1905, there were in all 66 estates, containing 230 villages, with an area of 8,19,523 acres. The *istimrar* revenue was Rs. 1,14,734—9—11

and the estimated rent roll of the *istimrardars* was Rs. 5,59,198. In 60 estates, all held by Rajputs, the custom of primogeniture prevailed. Of these, however, only 11 were original fiefs, and remainder having been formed by sub-division in accordance with the rules of inheritance. Originally, all the sons divided the estate, although the elder got a larger share than the others. In the next stage, the eldest son succeeded to the estate as well as to the *gadi*, while provision was made for the younger sons by alienation to them of villages on *gras* tenure. The last instance of such alienation occurred in 1823. In the third stage, the provision of the cadets of the house was limited to the grant of a well and a few *bighas* of land for life.

There were six estates, each of a single village, the tenure of which differed from the one described above. Five of these were held by co-parcenary bodies, succession was regulated by ancestral shares and both land and revenue were minutely divided. In one village, Karel, belonging to a community of Rathors, the property of the two chief men of the village was distributed on their death, into one share more than there were sons, and the eldest son took a double share. Rajosi stood apart from all other *istimrar* estates. It belonged to a Chita, who was sole *istimrardar*. The land was owned not by him but by the actual cultivators from whom he collected a fixed share of the produce, and himself paid a fixed revenue to Government. One of these villages, Kotri, belonged to Charans or Bhats, and was originally separated from the *istimrar* estate of Bhinai. The other five were stated by the Kanungos in the time of Mr. Cavendish to be *Khalsa* villages, and they probably should not have been included in the *istimrar* list.

The subordinate rights in the *istimrar* area have never formed the subject of judicial investigation. The principle followed has been to leave the *istimrardars* to manage their own affairs and to interfere with them as little as possible. It is well known, however, that in most of the larger estates there, were villages held by Charans, Jogis, and others, and villages held by sub-talukdars, relations of the *istimrardar*, who generally paid an unvarying amount of revenue to the head of the family, and who were succeeded in the subtalukas by their eldest sons. As a general rule jagir villages were not resumable, nor could the subtalukas be resumed except for valid cause which had to be assigned.

The *istimrardars* had always claimed to be owners of the soil, and their claim had been accepted. The opinion prevailing was that all culti-

vators were tenants at will, but there were good grounds for hesitating to adopt this opinion. Mr. Cavendish's enquiries extended to 296 villages, and in 158 villages of the *thakurs*, they disclaimed the right of ouster of cultivators from irrigated and improved lands where the means of irrigation or the improvement had been provided by the labour or capital of the cultivators. In 161 villages were found hereditary cultivators whose rights were the same as those of the owners of wells. Unirrigated and unimproved land was universally admitted to be held on a tenure at will from the *istimrardar*. Disputes between an *istimrardar* and his tenants seldom came before the courts. But with the passing of the Ajmer Tenancy and Land Record Act 1950, the position changed altogether. The cultivators now cannot be ousted as tenants at will. The Tenancy Act Section 17 describes the classes of the tenants as under:—

1. Occupancy Tenants
2. Exproprietary tenants
3. Hereditary tenants
4. Non-occupancy tenants.

This Act gave much more stability to the tenants and the collection of various *lags*, *negs* and other cesses from the tenants was totally stopped.

Jagir

The subject of *jagir* estates was investigated by a mixed committee of government officials and *jagirdars* in 1874, and their report contains a history of each estate. Out of a total area of 1,50,838 acres, yielding an average rent of Rs. 91,000. 65,472 acres belonged to the endowments of shrines and sacred institutions. The remaining *jagirs* were enjoyed by individuals and certain classes specially designated in the grants. No conditions of military or other service were attached to the tenure of any *jagir*.

In all *jagir* estates the revenue was collected by an estimate of the produce, and money assessments were unknown. As was the case in the *khalsa* before Colonel Dixon's settlement, the ideas of rent and revenue were confounded under the ambiguous term *hasil*, and until the year 1872 the relative status of the *jagirdars* and cultivators as regards the ownership of the soil was quite undefined. In that year it was decided that all those found in possession of land irrigated or irrigable from wells or tanks, which wells or tanks were not proved to be

constructed by the *jagirdar*, were owners of such land. The *jagirdar* was declared owner of irrigated land in which the means of irrigation had been provided by him, of unirrigated land, and of the waste.

Bhum

The tenure known as *bhum* is peculiar to Rajputs. The word itself means "the soil", and the name *bhumia* properly signifies the allodial proprietor as distinguished from the feudal chiefs and the tenant of *Khalsa*-land.

According to Baden Powell¹, it consists in any isolated "estate in a given area of land, which might be coupled with the condition of maintaining good order, being answerable for crime and so forth". Mr. La-Touche, who had carried out the settlement of Ajmer-Merwara in 1873, defines, on the authority of Mr. Hallam, the "Allodial property as land which has descended from inheritance, subject to no burden but that of public defence. It passes to all children equally; on failure of children to nearest kindred". The succession was, however, governed by the rule of primogeniture in cases where the *istimrardar* was also the *Bhumia*.

According to Colonel Tod's *Rajasthan*, Vol. I, page 168, the *bhumias* in Marwar are the descendants of the earlier princes who, on the predominance of new clans, ceased to come to court and to hold the higher grades of ranks. They continued, however, to hold their land, and became an armed husbandry, nominally paying a small quit rent to the crown, but practically exempt from such payment. In course of time the various kinds of *bhum* grew up, which, unlike the original allodial holding, were founded on grants, but apparently had this in common, that a hereditary, non-resumable, and inalienable property in the soil was inseparably bound up with a revenue-free title. *Bhum* was given as *mundkati*, or compensation for bloodshed, in order to quell a feud, for distinguished services in the field, for protection of a border, or for watch and ward of a village. Whatever the origin of a *bhum* holding, the tenure was identical and so cherished is the title of *bhumia* that the greatest Chiefs were solicitous to obtain it even in villages entirely dependent on their authority. The Maharaja of Kishangarh, the Thakur of Fatehgarh, the Thakur of Junia, the Thakur of Bandanwara, and the Thakur of Tantoti, were among the *bhumias* of Ajmer.

In Ajmer, there were 109 *bhum* holdings. It was probable that

1. *Land Systems of British India*, Vol. II, p. 329;

none of these holdings were original allods, but belonged to the class of assimilated allods. These *bhumias* were nearly all Rathors, descendants of younger branches of *istimrar families*, and could not claim an origin higher than that of the estates from which they sprang. Whatever the origin of the holdings, however, the rights and duties of all *bhumias* came in course of time to be identical. At first the land was revenue-free. Subsequently, a quit-rent was imposed but irregularly collected and this quit-rent was abolished in 1841 along with the extra cesses from the *istimrardars*. The duties of the *bhumias* were three in number: first, to protect the village and village-cattle from dacoits; secondly, to protect the property of travellers within their village from theft and robbery; and thirdly, pecuniarily to indemnify sufferers from a crime which they ought to have prevented.

This last incident is a peculiar feature of the Ajmer tenure, and grew out of the custom that the Raj should compensate losses of travellers by theft or robbery committed in its territory. Where the theft or robbery had occurred in a village belonging to a fief, the chieftain to whom the village belonged was called upon to indemnify the sufferers and the *istimrardars* of Ajmer have always been compelled to indemnify sufferers from thefts and robberies committed on their estates. Similarly, a jagirdar to whom the State had transferred its rights and duties, was pecuniarily liable. In case of theft in a *khalsa* village, the State was called upon to pay compensation. In Ajmer, the state finding this responsibility inconvenient, transferred it to a *bhumia* as a condition of the tenure, but in *khalsa* villages, where there were no *bhumias*, the State remained responsible.

However, useful the system of pecuniary indemnification may have been, and, however, well adapted it was to the times of anarchy in which it had its birth, there is no doubt that in Ajmer it had long been moribund. When the average rental enjoyed by a *bhumia* was only Rs. 17 a year, it was hopeless to expect that more than a very few *bhumias* could compensate even a moderate loss. As soon as the Native States adopted a system of regular police, this distinctive feature of the *bhum* tenure vanished, and Government, in 1874 sanctioned a proposal to abolish the pecuniary responsibility and to revert to what seemed to be the original incidents of the tenure, to hold the *bhumias* liable as an armed militia, to be called out to put down riots and to pursue dacoits and rebels, and to take from them a yearly quit-rent under the name of *nazarana*.

Tenures in Kishangarh

The State of Kishangarh was divided into five *Hakumats* of Rup-

nagar, Kishangarh, Arain, Fatchgarh and Sarwar, and 34 tahsils. Excepting Kishangarh, each of these was provided with a *Hakim* who also exercised civil and criminal powers. The central controlling authority in all revenue matters, was the Revenue Member of the council, who had two assistants.

The land tenures were of three kinds: *Jagir*, *Muafi* and *Khalsa*. The *Jagirs*, were invariably service tenures and subjected the holder to an obligation (1) to serve with his quota of horsemen (which obligation had in the beginning of the century been commuted to a cash payment), and ordinarily, attend upon their chief on his birthday and certain other festivals; or (2) to render service in the civil departments of the State. These estates were impartible and inalienable. They descended from father to son, or with the sanction of the Durbar to an adopted son. They were liable to be acquired for State purposes, land of equivalent value being given in exchange. They could, at any time, be resumed for serious offences against the State. The *Jagirdar's* forest rights were limited. An absolute occupancy tenant, i.e., a *bapidar*, even in *Jagir* holdings, could only be created by a *patta* from the Durbar.

The second sub-class, i.e., *Mutsaddi Jagirs* were subjected to very much the same liabilities as the militia *jagir*. They created an obligation on the part of the holder to serve himself in the civil departments of the State. These estates were also apt to be resumed, when the holder was guilty of a serious act or omission which disqualified him permanently from acting as a public servant.

Muafi lands were of three kinds, (1) *Dohli* (2) *Sansan*, and (3) *Milak*. *Dohlis* and *Sansan* were held by Brahmans, Charans, and Bhats; and *Milaks* by members of other classes, generally Mahajans and Kayasthas.

Lands held by charitable and religious institutions also come under this class. *Muafi* grants were rent-free, inalienable, and could be resumed on failure of heirs.

In the *Khalsa* area or crown lands, tenancy was of five kinds: (1) Absolute occupancy tenant (*Bapidar*), (2) Occupancy tenant (*Bahat Haqdar*), (3) Fixed-term tenant (*Ijaredar*), (4) Sub-tenant and (5) Tenant-at-will. Village service tenancy did not exist here, for *Bhambis* and others who rendered common service, were entitled to a small produce-share from each threshing floor. The Patel and Patwari were also

entitled to certain dues on special occasions according to immemorial custom.

(i) The absolute occupancy tenants were variously called *Biswaddars*, *Bapidars*, or *Pattadar*. Their proprietorship was created by means of the Maharajah's *Patta* or what is equivalent to it. The *Patta* was granted on payment of adequate consideration to the State. The tenant could transfer his holding by sale, lease, mortgage, or otherwise encumber it. The estate was partible and what the holder received from the subleasee during the continuance of the lease, was called *nal*. If a *Bapidar* for same reason, neglected to cultivate his holding, it was incumbent on the Revenue authorities to temporarily lease out the land, allowing the *Bapidar*, at the division of the crop, the *Nal* he was entitled to.

(ii) The second class, i.e., the Occupancy tenants, were holders who originally came into possession on the basis of a *Rwayati Chithi*, which was granted to them on their undertaking to make certain improvements on their holdings; as for example, sinking or repairing a well, or constructing other storage of water. For the first year they paid only a very small fraction of the produce, which was the reciprocal of the number of years plus three, over which the tenure was to last. This was fixed after considering the utility and cost of the construction. The maximum to which the State demand generally reached was one-third of the produce. In ordinary years, for every hundred rupees of the cost of improvement, the remission of one *Banta* was allowed. In famine years, the same concession was secured on incurring half the cost. A holder became an occupancy tenant on the expiry of the *rwayati* period. Usually he was not evicted unless in favour of an applicant, who offered a very large sum for the holding to secure its *Bapi* rights to himself. In sanctioning the transfer of this kind the pre-emptory right of the occupancy tenant, was always recognised and it was borne in mind that cost and labour have been expended by him on the improvement.

(iii) The fixed-term tenants retained possession of their holdings during the term allowed by the *rwayati chithi*, and were liable to ejection during the period of tenancy, if they failed to fulfil their engagement.

(iv) All the other classes could lease out their holdings and the leasees were sub-tenants, who were liable to pay the proprietor's share called the *nal*, in the first case to the *Bapidar* and in others, to the State.

(v) Tenants-at-will were ordinary tenants, who were engaged to cultivate a certain piece of land on payment to the State of a stipulated share.

It will be observed from the above remarks that rent and revenue were almost synonymous terms so far as this State was concerned, and there was no intermediary between the tenant and the State. The idea of rent if it existed at all, was probably in the *Nal* which was claimed as the proprietor's share.

The land revenue was generally paid in kind, the State demand varying from one-fourth to one-third of the produce. Exception was made in the case of poppy, cotton, maize, tobacco and spices. In their case revenue was collected in cash, the rates varying from 6 to 18 per cent. The standing crop when ripe for the sickle was appraised (*Kunta*), or was reaped and collected on the threshing floor for *Lata*. The State demand or produce share which was for once determined according to the class of land brought under cultivation, and to the caste or class to which the cultivator belonged, was then calculated and gathered from each field, and the total collections for each village were carted to Head quarters. Each granery (*Saman-ki-Haveli*) where these collections were stored, was so to say, a sub-treasury of the State. *Kunta* was irrespective of the actual out-turn, while *Banta* was entirely dependent on it.

The classification of the soil was into (a) unirrigated land (*Barani* or *Kanikar*), (b) well-irrigated or tank-irrigated (*Chahi* or *Peewal* or *Gorwan* or *Pichod*) and (c) tank-bēd (*Peta* or *Talabi*). The duties of the revenue officers who assisted at the division of the crop, have been more or less, described above. It only remains to be said that the *Bantas* in force in the State, were usually of 5 kinds: the State demand being in the proportion of 1:2 (i.e. *Adha Banta*), 1:3 (i.e. *Tija Banta*), 1:4 (i.e. *Choutha Banta*), 2:5 (i.e. *Pachduha Banta*) and 2:7 (i.e. *Sad Tija Banta*).

It will be observed that revenue relief under this system was wrought automatically, and whether the year was a fat or a lean one, the realization of the State share could produce no hardship on the cultivator.

Post Independence Period

Immediately after independence, Ajmer was made a Part C State. In the State of Ajmer there were three kinds of land tenures, namely—

Istimrari, Khalsa and Jagir. About 50 per cent of the total area was held by *istimrardars*. Thus, of the total area of 2,425 sq. miles, about 1,281 sq. miles were held by *istimrardars*, whose ancestors had originally acquired land under obligation of military services. They paid fixed revenue to government since 1864.

Out of the rest of the area, *Jagirdars* were in proprietary possession of an area of 235 sq. miles, 135 sq. miles were forest area and the balance of 776 sq. miles formed the *khalsa* area administered by Govt.

The *jagirdars* were assignees of revenue and the government did not recover anything from them in shape of land revenue. In the *Khalsa* area almost all the cultivators were peasant proprietors. They paid land revenue to the government direct. The revenue payable by them was liable to revision at the time of each settlement.

The rights of tenants of all the three areas were regulated under the Ajmer Land and Revenue Regulation, 1877, under which almost all of them, were treated as tenant-at-will and there was no security for them. They, particularly in the *istimrari* area, where there were no land records or land records staff, were liable to ejectment from their holdings at the sweet will of the *istimrardars*, who used to collect various kinds of 'leg', 'neg' etc., from them, in addition to rent in kind at a higher rate ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ of the produce.

To remedy these difficulties and confer hereditary rights on tenants, an Act known as the Ajmer Tenancy and Land Records Act was enacted and brought into force in the State with effect from May 12, 1950.

Under this Act collection of 'legs' and 'negs' from tenants had been prohibited, tenants were classified and the rent rates reduced and fixed as below:

- | | |
|--|--|
| (a) A hereditary or a non-occupancy tenants—other than a sub-tenant. | One fifth of the produce of his holdings. |
| (b) an occupancy tenant. | One sixth of the produce of his holdings. |
| (c) an exproprietary tenant. | One eighth of the produce of his holdings. |

Except non-occupancy tenants, no tenant could be ejected from his holdings except on certain grounds, such as non-payment of arrears of rent. To implement the provisions of this Act, land records and rent rates operations were started in the State in September, 1950. On the conclusion of these operations in 1953, the land record staff was appointed in the newly settled area. During the year 1952-53 the preparation of land records for 95 villages of the area under operations, was undertaken, and as a preliminary step towards the abolition of zamindari in this State, a Committee consisting of 11 members was set up in June, 1952 to make recommendations regarding the method of abolition and the amount of compensation to be paid. The report was drafted by the committee and presented before the State Assembly which passed it on to the Government for necessary action. A Land Reforms Commission was appointed to implement the provisions of the said legislation as also to suggest and carry out other suitable land reforms to suit the local conditions.

The Ajmer Abolition of Intermediary and Land Reforms Act was enacted in 1955 which empowered the State Government to issue a notification and abolish the intermediaries in land. All such estates thereafter reverted to the State. Provision for payment of compensation to such intermediaries was made in the Act. The intermediaries have been defined as *Istimrardar*, a non-sanadi *istimrardar*, minor *istimrardar*, *jagirdar*, *Bhoomia*, *Muafidar*, a *guzaredar* and a *Usufructuary mortgagee* of an estate. Thus all intermediaries of land except a *Biswedardar* or a *Khewatdar*, had been abolished by this Act. This was in consonance with the legislature in this behalf, that had been enacted in the surrounding State of Rajasthan. Immediately on publication of the notification for resumption, the Collectors were authorised to take over the estate and make necessary arrangements for their managements. A total of 51,055 intermediaries have been resumed in the district under the Act. Details regarding the compensation paid is given below as furnished by the Jagir Commissioner, Rajasthan¹.

1. The figures in the Basic Statistics regarding the Jagirdars and the interim compensation, paid are as follows—

Year	Total No. of Jagirdars	Amount paid (Rs. in '000)
1956-57	238	565
1957-58	939	1,995
1958-59	624	1,538
1959-60	243	1,268
1960-61	2,500	1,672

Year	Total No. of Resumed Jagirs	Total compensation paid
1956-57	12,290	5,15,019
1957-58	—	23,98,554
1958-59	—	17,00,388
1959-60	—	14,24,187
1960-61	—	16,71,873
TOTAL	12,290	77,10,021

By an adaptation Act, the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act and the Rajasthan Tenancy Act were extended to the whole district (these were already in force in the Kishangarh Sub Division) since June, 1958. The Biswedari or Khewatdari was abolished in the district under the Rajasthan Jamindari and Biswedari Abolition Act, 1959. With the coming into force of this Act, all the intermediaries in land have been abolished.

Rajasthan Tenancy Act, 1955 not only consolidates and amends the law relating to tenancies of agricultural lands, but it also provides for certain measures of land reforms. The Act can safely be claimed to be one of the most progressive Tenancy laws in India. In place of the multiplicity of tenancies and tenure that existed in the past, there are now only three classes of tenants viz., *khatedar* tenants, tenants of *khudkasht* and *ghair khatedar* tenants. Every person who, at the commencement of the Act was a tenant of land, otherwise than as a sub-tenant or a tenant of *khudkasht*, became a *khatedar* tenant. Tenants were authorized to receive written leases from their land holders in order to safeguard his undue ejection. In order to impose a ceiling and to prevent the accumulation of large areas of land in the hands of rich, absentee landlords, the government restricted the transfer of land to those who already hold 30 acres of irrigated or 90 acres of unirrigated land. The State Government may, however, by notification in the official gazette, exempt from the operation of this restriction any person, land or holding or class of person, land or holdings, if it considers such exemption to be necessary in view of the integrated or specialised character of operations or where industrial and agricultural operations are undertaken as a composite enterprise or on other reasonable ground. The division of holdings below an uneconomic level was also prohibited. The government laid down rules for the deter-

mination of rents. The Tenancy Act has been amended from time to time in order to incorporate improvements and remove ambiguities.

The Rajasthan Land Revenue Act 1956 consolidates and amends the law relating to land; the appointment, power and duties of revenue courts and revenue officers, village officers and village servants; the preparation and maintenance of maps and land records; the partition of estates; the collection of revenue and the matters incidental thereto.

In February 1956, the Rajasthan Government appointed a committee of officials and non-officials under the chairmanship of the Revenue Minister to advise government on the subject of Zamindari abolition. The committee submitted its report in September, 1956. The recommendations of the committee were embodied in "The Rajasthan Zamindari and Biswedari Abolition Act, 1959". It provided for the abolition of the estates by paying compensation to every Zamindar or Bisweddar who is divested of his estate. The compensation payable was fixed at seven times the net income in respect of land in the occupation of tenants, other than tenants of *khudkasht* and sub-tenants. Compensation for *khudkasht* land was at the rate of 25 per cent of land revenue payable. In addition to compensation, rehabilitation grant is also payable at a sliding scale varying from twenty times, the net income where the land revenue does not exceed Rs. 25/- per annum, to no rehabilitation grant where the land revenue exceeds Rs. 3,500/- per annum. After the settlement, the Zamindar or bisweddar will become the *khatedar* tenant in respect of his *khudkasht* land and will continue to pay to the State government by way of rent whatever he had been paying as land revenue. The tenants of the Zamindar will become *khatedar* tenants and will pay to the government the same revenue as he had been paying to the Zamindar. The resumption has been completed.

System of collection

Before the formation of Rajasthan, the Department of Land Records was part of the Revenue Department in the covenanting units. The Revenue Inspectors (Kanungos) in the tahsils supervised the work of the Patwaris, who were responsible both for the collection of revenue and maintenance of the village records. The *Sadar Kanungo* or Land Records Inspector at headquarters was responsible for maintaining the revenue records of the State as a whole.

After the formation of Rajasthan, the Departments of Land Reve-

nue in the integrating States, were split up into the Department of Land Revenue and the Department of Land Records. Both Departments continued to function up to December 16, 1952, when the Department of Land Records was abolished and the work was placed directly under the Collectors and Sub-Divisional Officers. The main duties connected with land records are—(1) maintenance of survey records and village maps up-to-date so as to simplify the periodical settlement operations (2) maintenance of record of rights for the protection of all who hold interest in land and (3) provision of statistics necessary for sound administration in all matters connected with land. The village maps form an important part of the land records. There are maps for all surveyed villages in the district. In the maps, fields are demarcated and numbered and unculturable area such as populated sites, rivers, tanks, roads, etc., are shown separately. The area under each survey number is separately entered in the land registers together with the owner's and tenant's name. Land is measured in Bighas, Biswas and Biswansi.

Land Records Officers

PATWARIS—The *Patwari* is the backbone of the revenue administration. He has charge of an area comprising a group of villages and is assisted by a *schua* (*chaprasi*) and the village *Patel*. His duties are to collect and keep accounts of land revenue and to issue receipts for the money realised from the cultivators. He also makes an estimate of the areas under various crops. He has to keep a watch on government waste land so as to detect encroachment and to protect trees and other properties of the government. He has also to look to the sanitary condition of the villages and to report to tahsil headquarters if there is any outbreak of human or cattle epidemic disease or other calamity. He is also required to keep an account of agricultural stock. Above all, he is the land records officer on the spot and maintains the village maps and registers and is the primary source of all information pertaining to the area in his charge. The *Patel* helps the *Patwari* and gets a five per cent commission on the revenue collected by him. He pays less than the ordinary rate on his holding and is further remunerated by Rs. 3.12 per cent allowance on the crop rate, and tank water revenue collected by him.

CIRCLE INSPECTORS (Kanungos)—Above the *Patwari* is the *Kanungo* or Circle Inspector. He supervises the work of the *Patwaris* in his circle and sees to it that the village records are kept up-to-date. A consolidated statement is prepared every year by this official for submission to the *Sadar Kanungo*.

DISTRICT INSPECTOR (Sadar Kanungo)—The Sadar Kanungo at headquarters, is the keeper of land records for the district as a whole. He is directly responsible to the Collector and prepares on behalf of the latter the periodical statements for the district, which are required to be submitted to the Divisional Commissioner. The controlling officers at the tahsil sub-division levels are the Tahsildar and Sub-Divisional Officer. The Collector is in over-all charge of the Land Records work in this district. The Board of Revenue controls and supervises the work in the whole state.

SETTLEMENT STAFF—Normally, settlement operations are held every 25 to 30 years. They are very necessary because over a span of years, changes occur in the area under crops, fields boundaries, ownership, etc., and the village maps, no matter how carefully corrected, become out of date. The actual survey work is done by Amins under the supervision of Inspectors. Fresh records and village maps are prepared and new assessment rates drawn up by the Settlement Officer or Assistant Settlement Officer incharge of the operations. These rates become effective only after the approval of the State Government. The records are written up in the Settlement Office, and after *parchas* (certificates of possession) have been distributed and objections dealt with, the registers are transferred to the revenue authorities for record and implementation. Settlement work in the district is in progress on a limited scale. In the year 1960-61, two Assistant Settlement Officers with headquarters at Ajmer and Beawar were working in the district under the supervision of the Settlement Officer stationed at Jaipur.

Bhoodan Movement

In order to facilitate the activities in connection with the Bhoodan Yagna initiated by Acharya Vinoba Bhave, an act was passed in 1955 entitled Ajmer Bhoodan Yagna Act. A Board was constituted to manage and supervise the Act, people could donate land for distribution to the landless. A landless person was defined as one holding no land or holding land less than 4 standard acres. The land collected, was distributed to the landless persons at a general meeting of the villagers. Persons, to whom land was leased, could receive *taccavi* loan under the Land Improvement Act, 1883 and Agriculturists Loans Act, 1884 and the rules made thereunder.

The following statement will show the achievement of the movement—

Year	Donors	Land donated (Acres)	Land distributed (Acres)	Families benefitted
1957	75	751	—	—
1958	1	134	306	47
1959	2	266	55	5
1960	—	—	—	—
1961	—	—	—	—

OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE

Registration Department

Under the Indian Registration Act of 1908, compulsory registration is required in the case of certain documents and optional registration is provided for in the case of certain others. As a rule, fees are levied for such registration, but the State Government have exempted from payment of fees documents relating to co-operative credit societies land mortgage banks, urban banks and housing societies.

Within certain limits, Tahsildars have the power of Sub-Registrars in their respective tahsils. Returns are submitted to the Collector, who is the overall authority in this regard in the district and enjoys the powers of District Registrar under the Act. The function of the Sub-Registrar is to register documents for which the required stamps duties and registration fees are paid. He keeps a record of such registered documents. On application, he issues certified copies from the records.

Stamp Department

The Superintendent of Stamps, Rajasthan, controls the supply and sale of stamps in the State. In each district the Collector is the administrative head and holds general charge of the Stamps Department. The actual work is done by the Stamp Karkun under the supervision of the District Treasury Officer who is responsible for the maintenance of the stock of stamps, their distribution to the tahsil depots and sale to the public. Following is the statement of receipts from the sale of stamps in the district during the three selected years:—

Year	Receipts (Rs.)
1952-53	5,01,791/7/-
1955-56	4,69,232/5/-
1960-61	8,86,720/8/-

Excise and Taxation

The district falls under the jurisdiction of the Assistant Commissioner, Excise and Taxation stationed at Ajmer. He is also responsible for the collection of Sales Tax and Entertainment Tax in the areas of the district other than the Ajmer city. The Assistant Commissioner also deals with the assessment and recovery of the Rajasthan Passenger and Goods Tax Act. For Ajmer city, there was a separate Sales Tax Officer who was also responsible for the collection of Entertainment Tax in the city.

The strength of staff, in both the offices, is given in the chapter on Other Departments.

With the transfer of opium and tobacco to the Central Excise list, State Excise revenue of the district, has been greatly reduced. Now the Excise Department deals with liquor and hemp drugs (*blang* and *ganja*) only. *Theekas* of liquor and hemp drugs are auctioned every year. A statement of the revenue of the Department in the district, for the period 1957-58 to 1960-61, is given below:

Year	Excise Rs.	Sales Tax Rs.	Ent. Tax Rs.	Agr. Tax Rs.	R.P.G.T. Rs.	Total Rs.
1957-58	50,60,588	30,80,867	1,92,665	—	—	83,34,120
1958-59	56,87,985	27,58,715	70,625	—	—	87,17,325
1959-60	55,00,192	32,42,412	2,81,376	—	4,86,360	95,10,340
1960-61	59,74,520	46,43,191	3,58,272	2,701	6,23,366	1,16,02,050

Central Excise

Ajmer district is under the jurisdiction of Assistant Collector, Central Excise stationed at Ajmer. Subordinate to him are two Superintendents, four Deputy Superintendents, 15 Inspectors, eight sub-Inspectors and 27 Sepoys. The ministerial staff of the office consists of 14 U.D.Cs. and 22 L.D.Cs. The statement of revenue for the past four years, is as follows:

Year	Total Revenue	Sources of Revenue
1957-58	26,18,637/-	Unmanufactured
1958-59	28,11,780/-	Tobacco, V. N. C.
1959-60	28,60,252/-	Oil, Cotton Fabrics
1960-61	28,03,442/-	Copper and Copper alloys, Aluminium

Revenue Units

The district is divided into 24 Girdawar Circles and 376 Patwar Halqas. The statement showing the location of Girdawar Circles and Patwar Halqas, is given in the appendix.

Appendix

REVENUE UNITS

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar Circle
Kekri	1. Kekri	1. Baghera 2. Deogaon 3. Deoliya Khurd 4. Dhunwalia 5. Junia 6. Kekri 7. Karonj 8. Lasaria 9. Mankhand 10. Manda 11. Mewda Kalan 12. Molkiya 13. Nayagaon 14. Salari
	2. Khawas	1. Aloli 2. Bharai 3. Bhimrawas 4. Bogla 5. Dhundhari 6. Gul Gaon 7. Kachriya 8. Kadera 9. Khawas 10. Kalera 11. Mehraun Kalan 12. Para 13. Pranhara 14. Pharkiya 15. Sadari 16. Sarsari 17. Shoklya 18. Ungai
	3. Sawar	1. Amli 2. Bajta 3. Bisundani 4. Cheetyawas 5. Chosla

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar Circle
		6. Chatiyali 7. Gordan 8. Khejri 9. Kushayta 10. Piplaz 11. Sawar 12. Tankawas
	4. Tantoti	1. Ahera 2. Arwar 3. Badla 4. Bhagwant pura 5. Dabrela 6. Godlia 7. Goyala 8. Jadana 9. Jawla 10. Jotayan 11. Kebaniya 12. Peeproli 13. Ringnot 14. Sarana 15. Santolao 16. Shergarh 17. Shoklya 18. Soliya 19. Tantoti
	5. Bhinai	1. Aikalsingha 2. Bandanwada 3. Bhinai 4. Chanwandiya 5. Chhachundra 6. Dhantol 7. Godlia 8. Hiyaliya 9. Jhcnpiyan 10. Karanti 11. Kitab 12. Kumaharia 13. Padanga

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar Circle
		14. Ratakot 15. Recchmaliya 16. Rooppura 17. Singawal 18. Sargaon 19. Sobadi
	6. Deoliya Kalan	1. Badla 2. Badli 3. Badgaon 4. Bagrai 5. Bubkiya 6. Chanpancri 7. Deoliyakalan 8. Gudhakhurd 9. Jetpura 10. Kanai Kalan 11. Kerot 12. Kurthal 13. Lamagra 14. Negelao 15. Neemera 16. Nandsi 17. Padhliya 18. Peepliya
Arain	Arain	1. Aakodiya 2. Arain 3. Bhabolav 4. Chosla 5. Dadia 6. Dhasuk 7. Deopuri 8. Gagunda 9. Gothiyana 10. Jhadol 11. Jhirota 12. Kakalwada 13. Motipura 14. Pachipala 15. Katsura

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar Circle
		16. Lamba 17. Padarwala 18. Sandolia 19. Sironj
Sarwar	Sarwar	1. Ajara 2. Badla 3. Banthli 4. Bhagwanpura 5. Borada 6. Chandolia 7. Daulatpura 8. Dantri 9. Fatehgarh 10. Harpura 11. Hingoniya 12. Cacholiya 13. Kascer 14. Khiria 15. Lalai 16. Manoharpura 17. Rampali 18. Sanpla 19. Sarsuda 20. Shiyar 21. Shyampura 22. Soonpa 23. Tajpura
Ajmer	1. Pisangan	1. Bhagwanpura 2. Bhanwta 3. Bublhwara 4. Dantra 5. Dodiya 6. Gola 7. Jetgarh 8. Kaleare 9. Karnos 10. Mevariya 11. Bhadsuri 12. Nand

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar Circle
		13. Nagelao
		14. Pagaran
		15. Picholiyan
		16. Pisangan
		17. Rampura Dabla
	2. Jethana	1. Bidak Chiyawas
		2. Dorai
		3. Dumara
		4. Jethana
		5. Kaklana
		6. Kesarpura
		7. Khanpura
		8. Lamana
		9. Lidi
		10. Makreda
		11. Mangliyawas
		12. Mayapur
		13. Saradhna
		14. Somolpur
		15. Tabiji
	3. Derathu	1. Bagsui
		2. Bara Pathar
		3. Bhagwanpura
		4. Bhatiyani
		5. Bhawani Khara
		6. Bhcempura
		7. Bithur
		8. Bubaniyan
		9. Banewara
		10. Chat
		11. Derathu
		12. Hatundi
		13. Jhadwas
		14. Motipura
		15. Nandla
		16. Niwaran
		17. Rajgarh
		18. Rajori

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar Circle
4. Pushkar		1. Ajesar 2. Ajmer Mahan 3. Ajmer Telian 4. Baroj Kazipura 5. Chorsiyawas 6. Deonagar 7. Ganahera 8. Kadcl 9. Kanas 10. Khorl 11. Kishanpura 12. Parvatpura 13. Pushkar
5. Ramsar		1. Chandsen 2. Deoliya 3. Dhol 4. Hanwatiya 5. Kanpura 6. Loharwara 7. Mavsiya 8. Morajhari 9. Ramsar 10. Sanod 11. Sanproda 12. Tihari 13. Tilana
6. Srinagar		1. Badlya 2. Balwanta 3. Beer 4. Beonja 5. Danta 6. Dilwara 7. Gadheny 8. Kanakheri 9. Kiranipura 10. Lavera 11. Makhupura 12. Palra 13. Pharkiya

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar Circle
		14. Rampuri Ahiran
		15. Srinagar
	7. Gagwana	1. Aradka
		2. Babyacha
		3. Bubani
		4. Budhol
		5. Chachiyawas
		6. Chandiyawas
		7. Gagwana
		8. Gegal
		9. Gugra
		10. Kayar
		11. Ladpura
		12. Makarwali
		13. Muhami
		14. Naredi
		15. Narwar
		16. Ramner Dhani
		17. Rasulpura
		18. Utra
Roop nagar	Roop nagar	1. Amarpura
		2. Bhadun
		3. Jojota
		4. Karkedi
		5. Kotdi
		6. Narena
		7. Nawan
		8. Nosal
		9. Pinglod
		10. Paner
		11. Roopnagar
		12. Sanodia
		13. Saplemabad
		14. Sursura
		15. Tayod
		16. Thiop
Kishangarh	Kishangarh	1. Badgaon
		2. Bandarindri

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar Circle
		3. Jojota 4. Biti 5. Buharu 6. Deedwana 7. Harmoda 8. Khadach 9. Khatoli 10. Kheda Kamsotan 11. Koda 12. Kuchil 13. Moondoti 14. Moondolaw 15. Nalu 16. Patan 17. Ralawta 18. Sargaon 19. Sawatsar 20. Silora 21. Tikawda 22. Tilonia 23. Udaipura
Beawar	1. Kharwa	1. Chawandia 2. Harraj pura 3. Jaurola 4. Kanakhedi 5. Keria 6. Kharwa 7. Kirap 8. Mailan 9. Moina 10. Piplaj 11. Sabalpura 12. Shyam Garh 13. Sitawaria
	2. Masuda	1. Audhideori 2. Bengaliawas 3. Daulatpura 4. Deopura 5. Dhola Danta

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar Circle
		6. Jhak
		7. Kailu
		8. Kesarpura
		9. Lamba
		10. Lulwa
		11. Masuda
		12. Nandwara
		13. Shergarh
3. Jalia		1. Bahadurpur
		2. Bari
		3. Bijainagar
		4. Dewas
		5. Hanwantiya
		6. Jalia
		7. Jewana
		8. Kania
		9. Lodhiana
		10. Ramgarh
		11. Sathana
		12. Sikhrani
4. Todgarh		1. Asan
		2. Bamanbera
		3. Banjari
		4. Barakhan
		5. Khera Kalan
		6. Khodwal
		7. Lotiyana
		8. Merian
		9. Palari
		10. Ramatmal
		11. Satukhera
		12. Taragarh
		13. Todgarh
5. Nayanagar		1. Balad
		2. Bawar khas
		3. Deelwara
		4. Fatehpur II
		5. Kaliawara

Tahsil	Girdawar Circle	Patwar, Circle
		6. Lasaria
		7. Nayanagar
		8. Noondri-Mendratan
		9. Pakhriabas
		10. Roopnagar
		11. Sarmaliyan
		12. Suhawa
	6. Rajiawas	1. Atitmand
		2. Deokhera
		3. Durgawas
		4. Gohana
		5. Jalia I
		6. Jetgarh
		7. Malpura
		8. Narbad Khera
		9. Rajiawas
		10. Sarwina
		11. Shahpura
		12. Surrian
	7. Jawaja	1. Anakar
		2. Badkochara
		3. Dhuriya Kheda Kalan
		4. Dewatan
		5. Jawaja
		6. Kabra
		7. Kalikakar
		8. Kishanpura
		9. Kotda
		10. Nai Kalan
		11. Suraj pura

APPENDIX 'A'

Vernacular	Meaning
1. Biswa 2. Khood 3. B. Dhal	} A twentieth portion of green crops taken by Istimrardars for their own horses and cattle.
4. Banta	
5. Bighori	
6. Begar	Share in produce of land. Cash rent, (literally) per bigha. Enforced labour without remuneration.
7. Chaonri	Cash tribute payable on the marriage of a daughter by the father of the girl to the Istimrardar.
8. Hawala	Land of an Istimrari Estate which Istimrardars do not farm out as tenancies, preserving it for cultivation for their own needs, and paying for the labour of cultivation.
9. Kunta	System of fixing the share of the Istimrardar in the produce of land by means of appraisement of the produce when the crop is ripe and still standing.
10. Khajru	Goat taken by an Istimrardar from herds of sheep and goats.
11. Khala	A heap of grain while still on the threshing floor.
12. Lata or Latai	System of fixing and apportioning the share of the Istimrardar in the produce of land by the actual division of the grain on the threshing floor.
13. Lag	Cess.
14. Ncola	Cash tribute recoverable by an Istimrardar from his tenants on the occasion of marriage and deaths in his family.

Vernacular	Meaning
15. <i>Nazarana</i>	Cash tribute recoverable by an Istimrardar as of right in certain classes of succession, and on alienation of house property.
16. <i>Neg Ghani</i>	Tax on oil mills.
17. <i>A. Tel Pali</i>	
18. <i>B. Ghani Pali</i>	
19. <i>C. Kiraya Ghani</i>	
20. <i>Neg</i>	Supplementary exaction in kind or cash taken in addition to Banta or Bighori.
21. <i>Patta</i>	A lease-deed which, in the minds of local agriculturists has acquired an indefinite association with ideas of permanency.
22. <i>Parwana</i>	Written document. Means lease-deed in this Report, and is used to denote something of less significance than a patta.
23. <i>Peshkashi</i>	Peshkashi means property tax paid by agriculturists, and Kholri property tax paid by non-agriculturists.
24. <i>A. Halsara</i>	
25. <i>B. Kholri</i>	
26. <i>C. Barar</i>	
27. <i>Parao Fees</i>	Camping ground fees.
28. <i>Parat Khal</i>	The skins of dead animals over which no one person has a distinct claim, and over which by virtue of historical custom Istimrardars commonly exercise the right of disposal.
29. <i>Ram Ram (or Nazar)</i>	Cash tribute denoting respect for the receiver.

CHAPTER XII

LAW, ORDER AND JUSTICE

Incidence of Crime

The following statement shows the incidence of some of the more important types of crimes in the district reported during the recent years :—

Crime	1957	1958	1959	1960
Dacoity	1	2	6	2
Robbery	10	14	12	6
Murder	19	18	24	15
Riot	33	37	47	48
Burglary	305	320	352	294
Cattle theft	54	41	41	44
Other theft	292	375	421	321
Miscellaneous I.P.C. cases	298	372	529	470
TOTAL	1,012	1,179	1,432	1,200

These figures, which are indicative of the major types of crimes committed in the district, reveal that the most common offences are theft and house-breaking. This may be attributed partly, to the general poverty of the people and a large number of people belonging to ex-criminal tribes living in the district. More serious offences like robbery, dacoity and murder are few and their incidence has not been a cause for concern. The overall position of crimes has not undergone much change and the slight rise is normal considering the increase in population of the district.

POLICE

Historical Background

Before 1861 Ajmer-Merwara had no regular police. The general peace of the district was maintained by the local military force known as the Merwara Battalion raised in 1822. In the estates, the responsi-

bility for law and order vested with *Istimrardars*, *bhumias* and *Jagirdars*. They engaged village watchmen to prevent crime in their areas.

Owing to the loyalty shown by the Merwara Battalion in the mutiny of 1857, a second Mer regiment was raised in the same year with headquarters at Ajmer. Financial reasons, however, led to its amalgamation in 1861, with the old Merwara Battalion, now called, Merwara Police Battalion. Its strength had been raised to 1,000 of all ranks, the corps being removed from the military establishment and placed under the Inspector General of Police, North-West Provinces. Out of the savings, resulting from the abolition of the Mer regiment, an organized constabulary, consisting of 548 men under a district Superintendent of Police, was established in January 1862. The arrangement by which the Merwara Battalion was classed as police, was soon found to be unsatisfactory, and therefore, in 1870 it was restored to its purely military character.

In 1871, when the Ajmer-Merwara was taken under the direct management of the Government of India, the local police force was transferred to the control of the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara. The District Superintendent of Police, Ajmer, continued to act under the orders of the Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara until 1912, when the post of Inspector General of Police at Abu was created and the control of local police was transferred to him. He was, in turn, responsible to the Chief Commissioner. In 1943, the Superintendent of District Police was made responsible to the Deputy Commissioner concerning law and order and to the Chief Commissioner in other matters, while the Inspector General of Police remained mainly responsible for the Railway Police. The control of the District Police was again transferred to the Inspector General of Police in 1947 with headquarters at Ajmer. In July 1948, the post of Inspector General of Police was converted into that of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, who was placed under the control of Inspector General of Police, Delhi. After the integration on 1st November, 1956 of State of Ajmer with Rajasthan, the District Police was placed under the control of a Superintendent, responsible to the Deputy Inspector General stationed at Ajmer. The Inspector General of Police has his headquarters at Jaipur.

Between 1871 and 1949, successive schemes of reorganization caused variation in the strength. In 1902, the strength was 704 of all grades, which gave a policeman to every 3.8 square miles, and to every 677.4 persons of the population of the district. The supervising staff consisted of a District Superintendent, and three Inspectors. There

were 13 sub-Inspectors, 93 head constables, 37 mounted constables and 556 foot constables. The force was distributed among 18 police stations and 38 outposts. The mounted police was subsequently disbanded and mechanized. In 1944, the Crime Investigation Department was reorganized. In 1951, the strength of the force of all ranks, was 1,455. The proportion of a policeman to the area controlled, was 2.26 square miles and 542.55 persons. The staff consisted of a District Superintendent, an Additional Superintendent, four Deputy Superintendents, 8 Inspectors, 61 Sub-Inspectors, 170 Head Constables and 1,208 constables both for armed and Civil police. There were 19 police stations and 31 outposts. In the Kishangarh State, the police duties were performed by a force of 511 consisting of all ranks (in 1905), including 187 Rajput Sepoys from the irregular infantry, and 91 village chawkidars. There were nine police stations and numerous outposts, the latter being mostly manned by the *jagir* militia.

As a connecting link between the villagers and the regular police, both for detection of crime and supervision of bad characters, 'chowkidari', or village police functioned in Ajmer for a long time. In 1871, the number of rural police stood at 398. Besides the chowkidars, there were several 'khabar rasans', who were paid in kind by the villagers and whose duties were to report cognizable crimes at the police stations.

Dr. R. H. Irvin, in his book, 'General and Medical Topography of Ajmer' (1941), says: "The police of the city of Ajmer is generally vigilant and sufficient for protection. The attention of the police is also directed to preserving the city in as clean a state as the means at the disposal of the Kotwal will allow."

Present Position

The police force in the district is divided into two categories, viz., civil police and armed police. The armed police deals mainly, with dacoits and robbers and is also called out when a breach of peace is threatened. The total strength of the police force (1960) is as follows:

Superintendent	1
Deputy Superintendent	5
Inspectors	6
Sub-Inspectors	66
Head Constables	201
Constables	1,381

The strength of each of the two categories is as follows:—

Armed Police

Reserve Inspector	1
Reserve Sub-Inspectors	3
Head Constables	80
Constables	521

Civil Police

Circle Inspectors	4
Prosecuting Inspector	1
Sub-Inspectors	56
Prosecuting Sub-Inspectors	7
Head Constables	121
Constables	860

The district, for Police administration, has been divided into four circles, Ajmer, Beawar, Kishangarh and Kekri. Ajmer circle has five police stations, Beawar six, Kekri six and Kishangarh circle, five police stations. In all, there are 22 police stations and 48 outposts. The set up is as follows:—

Circle	Police Station	Out Post
1. Ajmer	1. Kotwali	1. Kotwali
		2. Agra Gate
		3. Dhan Mandi
		4. Usri Gate
		5. Tripolia Gate
		6. Delhi Gate
		7. Madar Gate
		8. Clock Tower
		9. Kaiser Ganj
	2. Civil Line	1. Contonment
		2. Keshar Bagh
		3. Christian Ganj
		4. Ana Sagar
	3. Alwar Gate	1. Alwar Gate
		2. Ram Ganj
		3. Naka Madar
		4. Adarsh Nagar
	4. Pushkar	1. Pushkar
	5. Gegal	1. Garmara

Circle	Police Station	Out Post
2. Beawar	6. Beawar	1. Rail
		2. Parade
		3. Ajmer Gate
		4. Surajpol Gate
		5. Mewari Gate
		6. Ghang Gate
		7. Sendra Road
	7. Jawaja	1. Todgarh
	8. Masuda	1. Ramgarh
	9. Pisangan	
3. Kekri	10. Mangaliawas	
	11. Bijainagar	1. Bijainagar
	12. Nasirabad	1. Race Course
		2. Rail
		3. Lines
		4. Ramsar
		5. Hatundi
	13. Kekri	1. Kekri
	14. Bhinai	1. Bandanwara
	15. Geola	
	16. Sawar	1. Deoli
4. Kishan- garh	18. Kishangarh	1. Kishangarh
		2. Bandan Sundri
		3. Kuchil
		4. Churiawas
	19. Madan Ganj	1. Madan Ganj
	20. Arain	1. Mandol
	21. Rupangarh	1. Karkeri
	22. Sarwar	1. Jhak
		2. Fatehgarh
		3. Sanpla
		4. Hingonia

There is also a challani guard at Ajmer for escorting undertrials to and from the courts. At each outpost, there is one head constable and six to ten constables.

The State Police Training School is located at Kishangarh which trains police officers of various cadres. It has been described in the chapter on Education and Culture.

Traffic Police

Specially trained constable are posted in Ajmer, Kishangarh, Beawar and Nasirabad to direct and control the traffic. These are drawn from the civil police force; there being no separate traffic police in the district.

Special Branch

The former Intelligence Branch is now known as the District Special Branch. It is controlled by the Deputy Inspector General, C.I.D., Jaipur. The staff consists of one Deputy Superintendent, 3 Inspectors, 12 Sub-Inspectors, 18 Head Constables and 48 Constables.

Railway Police

The Railway Police was removed from the control of the Inspector General of Police, Bombay in 1908 and placed under the charge of Inspector General of Police, Abu. In the time of the former State of Ajmer, small units of railway police was posted at important stations, viz. at Ajmer, Nasirabad and Beawar. The district headquarter of the railway police is now at Ajmer and there are two outposts at Nasirabad and Beawar. The strength is as follows: —

STATION AJMER	
Sub-Inspectors	2
Head Constables	7
Constables	32

OUTPOST NASIRABAD	
Head Constable	1
Constables	4

OUTPOST BEAWAR	
Head Constable	1
Constables	4

TOTAL STRENGTH

Sub-Inspectors	2
Head Constables	9
Constables	40

The following statement shows that there has been considerable decrease in the number of crimes on Railways within the district, in recent years. Cases of travel without ticket are not included here.

Year	Theft in running trains	Theft at stations	Theft in goods yards	Misc. Crimes	Total crimes
1958	7	23	7	52	89
1960	6	6	2	78	92

Deputy Inspector General of Police (Ajmer Range)

The office of the Deputy Inspector General of Police (Ajmer Range) started working at Ajmer with effect from 1.11.1956 under the direct control of the Inspector General of Police Rajasthan. This range has under its jurisdiction, eight districts of Rajasthan viz., Ajmer, Alwar, Bharatpur, Jhunjhunu, Jaipur, Sikar, Sawai Madhopur and Tonk.

Anti-Corruption Squad

With the merger of Ajmer state with Rajasthan in November 1956, Ajmer became a district and it came under the jurisdiction of Deputy Superintendent, Anti-Corruption, Jaipur range, with headquarters at Jaipur. In the year 1960, the staff of the Anti-Corruption Department was increased and new outposts under the central Police Station of the Department, were created. A new outpost, with headquarters at Jaipur, was created for Ajmer, Sikar and Jhunjhunu Districts. This arrangement still continues. The sanctioned strength of this outpost is one Deputy Superintendent, one Sub-Inspector, one Head Constable and four constables.

Central Reserve Police (C.R.P.)

A Battalion of C.R.P. was stationed at Ajmer in March 1958. Every member of the force is liable for duty without and beyond, as well as within, the territory of India. The duties of the officers and members of the force are as enjoined by the Central Reserve Police Force Act of 1949, and embrace internal security duty in the event of distur-

bances of magnitude, transcending the capability of the state police. One more Battalion of the C.R.P. was added to the strength at Ajmer in 1960-61, and there is proposal to add another Battalion here to make Ajmer the regimental centre of three Battalions, with one Deputy Inspector General as head of the force.

JAIL ADMINISTRATION

During the British regime, the Commissioner Ajmer-Merwara, was the ex-officio Inspector General of Jails, who exercised general control over the jails and lock-ups at Ajmer, Nasirabad and Beawar. The Civil Surgeon, Ajmer who invariably was drawn from the Indian Medical Service Cadre, worked as part time Superintendent Jails. Prisoners were taken to Courts outside Ajmer on the date of hearing and brought back to the Central Jail, Ajmer. In emergency prisoners were kept in ordinary lock-ups attached to police stations.

Present Set-up

The Central Jail, Ajmer which was constructed in 1872, was converted into a Model Jail, in Dec., 1956 after the merger of the State of Ajmer. The total authorised capacity of the Jail is 581. Arrangement for the execution of death sentences also exists in this jail. There is also a mortuary attached to the jail for holding post mortem. The jail has a staff of one Superintendent, two Jailors, four Assistant Jailors, 9 Head Warders and 23 Warders. There is also a Second-Class Sub-Jail at Kishangarh. It has a capacity for 26 prisoners. The staff consists of an Assistant Jailor, a Head Warder and 7 Warders.

In addition to these, there are three correctional Institutions at Ajmer. The state Reformatory for females, is attached to the Model Jail and has a capacity for 22 convicts. It was established in 1958. The Pre-Release Home equips the convicts about to be released, with some craft training. The after Care Home was established in 1958 and has a capacity for 15 female convicts. It also incorporates an Industrial Training centre. This Home is administered by Social Welfare Department. Each of these correctional institutions is under the charge of a Superintendent.

Prison Discipline

Discipline is maintained in accordance with the Jail Regulations. The prisoners are housed together according to sex. The lunatics are housed in separate cells. No instance of disorderly conduct by a lunatic has been reported in recent years.

Welfare

The Model Jail has a hospital attached to it. There is one general ward with eight beds and an isolation ward with two beds for persons suffering from infectious diseases. There are five cells for lunatics. The staff of the hospital consists of one doctor, two compounders and one midwife. The female reformatory has a ward for sick with one bed. The other correctional institutions are periodically visited by doctors. The sub-jail is visited on alternate days, by a medical officer.

The Model Jail has a good library consisting of 1,100 books in English, Sindhi, Hindi, Gurmukhi, Urdu, Marathi, Sanskrit and Bengali languages. Visits of relatives are permitted according to rules and for each institution, there is a Board of Visitors, which makes periodical visits and brings complaints to the notice of the authorities.

The Model Jail famous for production of carpets (*durries*), *Nivars*, dusters, towels and *dusuti* cloth. Besides, all the three correctional institutions impart training to convicts in various crafts to enable them to rehabilitate after release.

JUDICIARY

Historical Sketch

During the Mughal period the *faujdar* was the executive authority. A *Qazi* was also posted at Ajmer. Decisions were according to Shariat and Hindu laws. During their stay at Ajmer, kings dispensed justice. Upto the close of the 18th century, because of external invasions and internal disorders, there was neither any written law nor any system of properly constituted courts of justice. In some cases people settled their disputes by recourse to arms, in others, the assistance of the village panchayats was sought, and in rare cases, especially, when one or both of the parties were influential, the matter was taken before the ruler or the agent of the ruler. The administration of justice was very lax.

The inhabitants of Merwara were a turbulent people and justice was generally sought by the exchange of swords. However, they were cultivated in due course of time and were induced to take recourse to the panchayats for the settlement of their disputes. Lt. Col. Dixon in his *Sketch of Merwara* describes in detail, the method of justice dispensed in this tract. In all cases having reference to the abduction of women, breach of promise of marriage, claim to land, debts, settlement

of boundary disputes, minor cases of *faujdari*, in a word, in all matters of complaints of wrong sustained or injury done, with exception to higher cases of crime, the panchayat gradually became the chief instrument to administer justice amongst this primitive people. The complainant used to present a written petition in Urdu giving the particulars of his grievance and also expressed his willingness, or otherwise, to have his case settled by panchayat. An order was then passed for the attendance of the defendant. On his appearing, the complaint was explained to him, when he delivered in a counter statement, signifying at the same time, by what mode he wished to be tried. If each party desired a panchayat, each named his respective arbitrators. Sometimes the jury consisted of twelve members on each side, but generally on the score of economy, each side restricted its quota to three or four members. Objections to members on account of nearness of kin, or on other reasonable grounds, were allowed, and substitutes were named to supply the place of those challenged and rejected. The complainant and defendant then entered into engagements to abide by the decision of the panchayat. But in case of disapproval, a new trial was allowed on paying a stated fine to the Government. In like manner, the arbitrators bound themselves by engagements to do strict and impartial justice in the case submitted to their decision; in failure thereof, a stated sum was forfeited. All preliminaries having been arranged, the case would go under investigation. As the Elders were chiefly selected from their responsibility and inferred knowledge of right for the duty, delay in coming to a decision was not unusual; feelings of pride and the imagined honour of their clan also frequently induced delay.

Panchayats took a month or five weeks to consider the questions at issue. Having at length come to a decision, their opinion recorded in writing, was read and explained to the complainant and defendant, who approved or disapproved, of the decree of *panch*, accordingly as their feelings promoted them. Their decision generally speaking, was unanimous. When otherwise, the opinion of three-fourths of the members was necessary to make their decree binding. On disagreement, a fresh trial could be demanded but this privilege was rarely claimed. The superintendent also knew when the decision of a *panch* was not consonant with the usages of the people. His orders were received willingly by the arbitrators, when any deviation from common usage was pointed out to them. In this way, by observing a temperate conciliatory tone toward the jury, a slight modification of their decree not unfrequently, had the desirable effect of bringing round a *razcenamah* on both sides. The system worked well and during the period of British

rule in Merwara, no appeal had been made beyond the Superintendent of the district¹.

In 1877, Ajmer Courts Regulation was passed. It was the first permanent landmark in the setting of machinery for administration of justice. Various grades of courts were established with that of the Chief Commissioner as the highest court of appeal. The lowest Civil courts were those of the Munsifs, with civil powers upto Rs. 100. These were exercised by the Tahsildars of Ajmer, Beawar and Todgarh and by the Naib-Tahsildars of the same places. The *Istimrardars* of Bhinai, Pisangan, Sawar, Kharwa, Bandanwara and Dcolia also enjoyed these powers. Appeals from the judgements of the court of Munsif lay to the court of concerned subordinate Judge enjoying First Class powers and having jurisdiction. The subordinate Judges of the First Class had powers to deal with suits upto the valuation of Rs. 10,000. The appeals from these courts lay to the Commissioner as District Judge, and thence to the Chief Commissioner as High Court. Small causes court powers upto Rs. 500 were exercised by the Assistant Commissioner, Merwara; the cantonment Magistrate, Nasirabad, the Extra Assistant Commissioner, 2nd Grade Ajmer and the Deputy Magistrate, Beawar. The Registrar small casues court, Ajmer, exercised powers upto Rs. 20. The revision against the orders of the small causes courts lay to the Chief Commissioner.

In the field of criminal justice, the Chief Commissioner acted as a High Court for the purpose of appeals from the Commissioner who exercised the powers of a Sessions Judge for Ajmer-Merwara. Below him were the Assistant Commissioners of Ajmer and Merwara as District Magistrate for their respective charges. There were also Magistrates of the First Class having separate jurisdiction. The appeals against their judgments were heard by the concerned Sessions courts. There were Magistrates of the 2nd class and appeals against their judgments lay to the District Magistrates. The *Istimrardars* of Bhinai, Pisangan, Sawar, Kharwa, Bhandanwara and Dcolia functioned as Honorary Magistrates and enjoyed powers of a 2nd Class magistrate.

In the beginning of 20th century, there was demand for the separation of judiciary from executive was voiced. In 1927, the court of the Judicial Commissioner was established which exercised all the powers of a High Court for Ajmer-Merwara. References that were permissible to the Allahabad High Court under the old Regulation, were deleted.

1. Sketch of Merwara (1859) by Lt. Col. C. G. Dixon, Superintendent Ajmer & Merwara.

In 1930 further separation of Executive and Judiciary took place. Till that year, the Commissioner used to be the District Judge and all subordinate Civil Courts were under his administrative control. In that year, an officer of Indian Civil Service was appointed as the District Judge with purely judicial duties. Ever since, the posts of the District Judge and of the Commissioner, redesignated as Deputy Commissioner, were held by different officers separately. All subordinate judges and their staff were under the administrative control of the District Judge and the Judicial Commissioner, whereas the officers exercising magisterial powers and their staff, were under the administrative control of the Deputy Commissioner, who exercised the powers of the District Magistrate.

The Judicial Commissioner and the District Judge held their courts at Ajmer. Ajmer had a regular small causes court also and the presiding officer had been empowered to try civil suits of the value exceeding Rs. 50,000. His pecuniary jurisdiction was unlimited. He also heard and decided such civil appeals as were transferred to him by the District Judge. To cope with other civil work, three Subordinate Judges were stationed at Ajmer, who were designated as the Sub-Judge, the Additional Sub-Judge, and the II Additional Sub-Judge. All of them were Sub-Judges of the First Class, but the Sub-Judge Ajmer tried suits in which the valuation was between Rs. 5,000 to 50,000. Suits of lower valuation were tried by the Additional Sub-Judges and the allocation of the work between them was made by the District Judge. The Additional Sub-Judges also tried small causes suits upto the value of Rs. 250.

Beawar had a separate Sub-Judge with jurisdiction to try cases upto Rs. 50,000. The same officer exercised the powers of a Judge Small Causes Court. No separate courts were established at Kckri, Nasirabad and Deoli. The Sub-Judge Ajmer held court every month at Kckri for eight days, at Nasirabad for two days, and at Deoli for a day and disposed of the civil and small causes suits.

There were several courts of Honorary Munsifs. Usually the Istamdar used to be appointed Munsifs with powers to try civil suits upto Rs. 100 arising within their estates. All such courts were established in 1949 and their work was transferred to the regular civil courts.

On criminal side, the Judicial Commissioner was the High Court for this state. The Deputy Commissioner was the District Magistrate. The Assistant Commissioner was the Additional District Magistrate.

and Additional Assistant Commissioner and the Sub-Divisional Officers were invested with first class magisterial powers. The tahsildars and Superintendent of Excise were invested with Second Class Magisterial powers. Besides, there were three stipendiary Magistrates First Class. This system continued till 1956, when Ajmer State merged into Rajasthan.

Kishangarh

The laws of the State were to a great extent, adaptations of the codified law in force in British India. The criminal law and procedure followed very closely the Indian Penal Code, and the Code of the criminal procedure. The criminal courts at the capital were the court of the Judicial Member, the Appellate Court and the Faujdari. The Appellate Court and the Court of Faujdar consisted of a bench of two judges. The civil courts at the capital, were the court of the Judicial Member, the Appellate Court and the Diwani Adalat. Final appeals, both civil and criminal, lay in the *Hazuri Mahakma*; and a large majority of these, together with revision cases, were disposed of by His Highness the Maharaja. This condition existed till 1941, when a High Court was established at Kishangarh. The High Court was the highest court of civil and criminal justice in the state and was independent of the executive. Formerly, in the districts, i.e., Sarwar, Arain and Rupangarh, the *Hakims* (revenue officers) used to deal with civil and criminal cases with the result that judicial work could not be given the full attention it deserved and its quality also suffered. As this system was found to be defective, the judicial courts in all the districts, were separated from the executive from 1.11.1941 and placed directly under the charge of the judicial officers working at the headquarters, who were appointed part-time Judge-Magistrates for the Courts in the district, which they visited every month for about a week. Each court was placed in charge of one officer and the system of work in the courts in the districts, was regulated and brought in line with the work at the headquarters. The powers and jurisdiction of all the courts were revised and with a view to expediting disposal without impairing efficiency, all the Civil Judges were invested with Small Causes powers upto a certain limit and all the magistrates were given summary powers for certain class of cases of petty nature.

An efficient bar, being an essential requisite, the Pleaders Act No. 1 of 1943 was passed and a more liberal policy was adopted by throwing open legal practice in the State to experienced lawyers practising outside the State, subject to certain conditions.

Present Position

After the integration, the administration of the district was brought in line with other areas of Rajasthan. The Collector was appointed the District Magistrate by virtue of his office. Similarly, all Assistant Collectors in charge of Sub-Divisions were appointed First Class Magistrates and Sub-Divisional Magistrates and all tahsildars were given the powers of Magistrates of the Second or Third Class. Thus the criminal jurisdiction of superior revenue officers was confirmed.

A court of District and Sessions Judge, with headquarters at Ajmer, was constituted with overall jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters. Under him are two Civil and Additional Sessions Judges posted at Ajmer and Kishangarh. The jurisdiction of the Civil and Additional Sessions Judge Ajmer, is the same as of his immediate superior; while that at Kishangarh extends over Kishangarh sub-division. One civil judge is posted at Ajmer, who also acts as the Debt Settlement Officer. His jurisdiction extends over Ajmer and Kekri Sub-divisions. There is a small causes court at Ajmer under an Additional Civil Judge. His jurisdiction extends over Ajmer sub-division excluding Nasirabad cantonment. At Beawar, there is a Civil and Assistant Sessions Judge, whose jurisdiction covers Beawar sub-division. There are four Munsifs of whom three are posted at Ajmer, and the fourth at Kekri. The jurisdiction of the Ajmer Munsifs extends over the municipal limit, while that of the Kekri, over the Kekri sub-division. There is one Munsif Magistrate at Nasirabad, who has jurisdiction over Nasirabad cantonment.

On the criminal and revenue side, the present position is as follows:—

The Collector as District Magistrate is subordinate to the District and Sessions Judge in criminal matters but is the head (after the abolition of the posts of Commissioner in 1961) of the district revenue courts. There is also an Additional District Magistrate at Ajmer. Below him, in both criminal and revenue matters, are the Sub-Divisional Officers (Magistrates) at Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri and Kishangarh, each of whom enjoys First Class powers. At Ajmer, there is a City Magistrate and a Municipal Magistrate with First Class powers, the division of Jurisdiction between them, has been made on the basis of police stations. There are four Assistant Collectors and Magistrates out of whom two are posted at Ajmer and one each at Beawar and Kishangarh. There is a Munsif Magistrate at Nasirabad who also exercise first class

magisterial powers. The tahsildars also have magisterial powers, as indicated before, in their respective areas. The other magistrates are posted as follows:—

Ajmer	..	Second Class Magistrate
Beawar	..	Second Class Magistrate
Kekri	..	Second Class Magistrate
Kishangarh	..	Second Class Magistrate
Sarwar	..	Second Class Magistrate
Roopangarh	..	Second Class Magistrate
Arain	..	Second Class Magistrate
Ajmer	..	Third Class Magistrate
Ajmer	..	Third Class Magistrate
Beawar	..	Third Class Magistrate

Nyaya Panchayats

In the process of democratic decentralization, Nyaya Panchayats have been established. They are invested with judicial powers, both for civil and criminal work. For each group of five to seven panchayat circles, separate Nyaya Panchayats have been set up to try minor criminal offences as specified in the schedule attached to the Act and to impose fines not exceeding Rs. 50. In the event of non-payment of fine, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of the area, makes the recovery as if the fine was imposed by himself. In civil cases, these panchayats have jurisdiction to try certain class of suits not exceeding Rs. 250 in valuation. In case, where difficulty arises in executing a decree, a report is made to the Munsif or Civil Judge having jurisdiction who executes the decree as if it was passed by his court. The first elections were completed in January, 1961 to set up 52 Nyaya Panchayats in this district. The constitution, powers and functions of Nyaya Panchayats, have been more fully described in the chapter on Local Self Government.

The institution and disposal of all types of criminal cases during the years 1959-60 and 1960-61 by the courts in the district, was as given below:—

Year	Previous balance	Cases instituted during the year	Total	Cases disposed off during the year	Balance
1959-60	5,506	22,505	28,011	22,850	5,161
1960-61	5,161	12,045	17,206	13,502	3,704

Legal Profession

There are five Bar Associations in the districts—at Ajmer, Beawar, Nasirabad, Kekri and Kishangarh. The Ajmer Bar Association at Ajmer is the oldest in the district and was set up in 1925. In 1960-61, it had 125 members of whom 32 were advocates and the rest, pleaders. This Association has a good reference library. The rest of the associations were set up in 1943, 1947, 1945 and 1955 respectively.

There is a separate Bar Association of Revenue Board at Ajmer, set up in 1958. The membership of the association is confined to those, who deal with revenue cases only. In 1960-61 its membership was 52.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

In this chapter are described those departmental activities, which have not been dealt with elsewhere in this gazetteer.

Rajasthan Public Service Commission

The Rajasthan Public Service Commission was established at the time of the formation of United States of Rajasthan with headquarters at Jaipur. The headquarters of the Commission was shifted to Ajmer on 1-9-58. The present number of members, besides the Chairman, is three.

It is obligatory on the State Government to consult the commission:—

- (a) On all matters relating to recruitment to Civil Services and for Civil Posts.
- (b) On the principles to be followed in making appointments to Civil Services and Civil Posts and in making promotions and transfers from one service to another and on the suitability of candidates for such appointments, promotions and transfers.
- (c) On all disciplinary matters affecting the persons serving under the State Government in a civil capacity, including memorial or petition relating to such matters.

It is however, provided that the Governor of the State may, as respects other services and posts in connection with the affairs the State, make regulations specifying the matters in which either generally or in any particular class of case or in any particular circumstances, it should not be necessary to consult the Public Service Commission. The Commission also conducts competitive examinations for recruitment to the various State cadres of gazetted civil posts e.g., Rajasthan Administrative Service, Rajasthan Judicial Service, Rajasthan Accounts Service, Rajasthan Police Service, Rajasthan Education Service, etc., and also for important subordinate services.

The gazetted establishment consists of a Secretary, two Assistant Secretaries and four Section Officers. There are 112 members in the non-gazetted staff which consists of one personal assistant to Chairman.

one accountant, six assistants, six stenographers, 68 clerks and the rest are class IV servants.

The Board of Revenue

The Board consists of four members, besides the Chairman, who belong to super-time scale of the Indian Administrative Service cadre. The other establishment of the office consists of a Registrar, a Deputy Registrar, 6 stenographers, 18 upper division clerks, 34 lower division clerks and a sadar qanungo besides the class IV staff.

The Board is the highest revenue court of appeal, revision and reference in Rajasthan. It exercises general superintendence and control over all revenue courts and over all revenue officers. The control of all judicial matters connected with the settlement vests in the Board. It also looks after the land records work. One of the senior members of the Board exercises the powers of the Inspector General of Stamps and Registration and another member as Commissioner for Betterment Levy.

The Board of Secondary Education

The office of the Board of Secondary Education was at Jaipur but it was shifted to Ajmer in December, 1961. The administrative head of the Board is the Chairman and the chief executive officer of the Board is the Secretary, next to whom come the Deputy Secretary and an Assistant Secretary. The other staff consists of an office superintendent, an accountant, three head assistants, stenographers and several clerks.

The Board conducts the High School, Higher Secondary and Intermediate Examinations in Arts, Science and Commerce.

Public Works Department

The work of the Public Works Department in the district is looked after by an Executive Engineer who is headquartered at Ajmer. The district, for the purpose, is divided into four sub-divisions, each being under the charge of an Assistant Engineer. Three of the Assistant Engineers are headquartered at Ajmer and the fourth at Beawar.

Apart from the road building programme, which is described in the chapter on 'Communications', the main functions of the district office are the repair and maintenance of government buildings and construction of new ones. Some of the more important construction works undertaken in recent years are as follows:

1. Tourist Rest House at Ajmer.
2. Conversion of Man Mahal, Pushkar, into a Dak Bungalow.
3. Office buildings for Public Service Commission and Revenue Board at Ajmer.
4. Construction of government staff quarters at Ajmer.

Rehabilitation Department

After partition, a large number of displaced persons came over to the district from Sindh and work of their rehabilitation on large scale, had to be undertaken. Many have, however, since left for other parts of the country. The rehabilitation work has now come to an end. A section in the Collector's office deals with the work, most of which relate to loans. The staff in the section consists of a Loan Inspector, three upper division clerks, two sub-inspectors, five lower division clerks and three class IV servants.

Economic and Industrial Surveys

The headquarter of Directorate of Economic & Industrial Surveys is at Jaipur. A statistician of this department has been posted at Ajmer. He has a staff of six investigators of grade I, three of grade II, one lower division clerk and a peon.

The office has recently conducted an economic and industrial survey of the district. The report is under scrutiny in the central office at Jaipur. Valuable information on the economic conditions of the people is expected to become available when the report is finalised.

Sub-Regional Employment Exchange

The exchange was established after the Second World War, primarily with a view to rehabilitating the disbanded soldiers. In recent years, it has been acting more or less, as a clearing house between employers and job-seekers. In 1960, the office started a scheme for a comprehensive survey of employment market in the district. The first report, published by the Directorate of Employment, Labour Department, Government of Rajasthan on the strength of data collected and supplied by the office, is summarised elsewhere in the volume.

The exchange has a staff of four gazetted officers (one Sub-regional Employment Officer and three Assistant Employment Officers) and 13 clerks, besides the usual complement of peons, chowkidar, driver, etc.

Office of the Assistant Commissioner, Excise and Taxation, Ajmer

The excise and taxation work in the district is looked after by the Assistant Commissioner. The existing strength of his staff during 1961 consisted of 17 Inspectors, six upper division clerks, 33 lower division clerks, two moharar and 62 class IV servants.

Office of the Sales Tax Officer, Ajmer

He is responsible for dealing with the sales tax and entertainment tax in the district. The strength of his staff during 1961 consisted of two Inspectors, three upper division clerks, 16 lower division clerks and 11 class IV servants.

Community Project Officer

An office of the Community Project Officer has been opened at Pisangan to supervise the various training-cum-production centres transferred to the Panchayat Samitis. These centres are described in the chapter on Industries. The Community Project Officer is assisted by one lower division clerk. The Pisangan, Srinagar and Masuda blocks fall within the jurisdiction of this project.

Treasury

Money transactions of all the government offices, whether Central or State, are channelled through and scrutinized by this office. In this work the Treasury Officer, is assisted by two accountants, 17 upper division clerks and 22 lower division clerks. There is also a record lifter besides five peons.

District Statistics Office

The office is a part of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics situated at Jaipur. It is engaged in collecting statistical data on a wide variety of subjects. The data is passed on to the central office where it is processed and incorporated in the various reports and abstracts published by them. A statistical booklet on Ajmer district has also been brought out recently. The office also caters to the demands of Labour Bureau, Govt. of India, Simla and the National Sample Survey organization of the Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India. The office has a strength of the District Statistician, one District Statistical Inspector, one Field Inspector for National Sample Survey and one lower division clerk and a peon.

Tourist Bureau

The charge of this office is held by a Tourist Assistant, who has

under him, a caretaker besides a number of sweepers and a chowkidar. The office-helps tourists in an advisory capacity.

Rajasthan State Roadways

After nationalization of the bus route from Ajmer to Kota, a depot manager has been posted at Ajmer, who controls the fleet stationed at and plying from there.

Devasthan

In Ajmer State there was no Devasthan Department, no religious places having been taken up for State management. After merger also, this has not changed. Some grants-in-aid are sanctioned sporadically out of funds at the Minister's disposal. The work relating to these grants is looked after by a single clerk in the Collector's office. For matters of jurisdiction, the district falls under the charge of Assistant Commissioner, Devasthan, Jaipur.

Court of Wards

The Court of Wards department in the erstwhile State of Ajmer was set up for preservation of the property of minor or incapacitated land holders, the education of minors and the care of their person. The department was headed by the Commissioner and the management was carried through a General Manager, subject to the general control of the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara. The Ajmer Government Ward Regulation came into force on 1st July, 1888. The General Manager also had civil and criminal powers. In 1941, there were 11 estates under the management of the court. This number is at present 21. The work is now looked after by a single clerk in the Collectorate.

Meteorological Observatory

The only meteorological observatory of the district is at Ajmer. There is no regular office of an observer. The instruments are fixed in the compound of the Collector's office and a clerk from the office of Principal Medical and Health Officer takes readings and passes them on to the Regional Meteorological centre, New Delhi. Some allowance is given to this clerk for this extra work.

Underground Water Board

An office of the Board was set-up at Ajmer in 1957 with a view to ascertaining the depth of the water table as also its quantity and quality. The organization has sunk four experimental tubewells at

Pushkar and the digging of some others are in progress at various places. The staff of the office consists of blasters, borers, drivers, class IV officials—four each and one blasting supervisor.

Inspectorate of Weights and Measures

The Punjab Weight and Measures Act, 1941, was extended to the former state of Ajmer in 1950. The rules made under the Act came into force in November, 1954. The office, however did not start functioning till July, 1955. The Assistant Marketing Officer in the office of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, looked after the work till November, 1956, when the state merged with Rajasthan. A separate Inspector is now incharge of this office which works under the supervision of the District Industries Officer. The staff consists of one Inspector, two Assistant Inspectors, three Manual Assistants and two lower division clerks. There are two separate offices at Kishangarh and Beawar. The Kishangarh office has one Inspector and one Manual Assistant and the Beawar office one Assistant Inspector, one Manual Assistant and one lower division clerk.

Office of the Divisional Commissioner, Ajmer

After the merger of Ajmer with the Rajasthan, the headquarters of Divisional Commissioner, Jaipur were shifted to Ajmer with effect from 1-11-1956, and the division now came to be known as the Ajmer Division. This division included all the districts of the former Jaipur Division i.e. districts of Jaipur, Alwar, Bharatpur, Sawai Madhopur, Tonk, Sikar, Jhunjhunu as also the new district of Ajmer.

The Commissioner was the highest officer in the division representing the Government for General Administration matters. He discharged functions of various type; supervisory, appellate and also executive.

As Revenue Officer, the Commissioner was responsible for the entire Revenue Administration in his division. He supervised the work of Collectors and other revenue officers, inspected the revenue courts and offices as also heard appeals in revenue cases. In the work of hearing appeals, he was assisted by two Additional Commissioners, one of them headquartered at Jaipur. He also convened periodical meetings of the revenue officers with a view to straightening out the difficulties experienced by them. The Annual Administration Reports of the districts, as also the half-yearly reports submitted by the Sub-Divisional Officers, were scrutinised and sent by him to the Government. He was also responsible for ensuring that the training of Indian Administrative

Service and Rajasthan Administrative Service trainee officers was attended to properly. He transferred the tahsildars from one place to another and other subordinate officials from one district to another, within his jurisdiction. He was also responsible for Court of Wards work.

He was the coordinating authority for the developmental activities attended to by various Government departments in his division. In this capacity, he convened meetings of various divisional heads of development departments and resolved the inter-departmental difficulties. The Divisional Commissioner also watched the progress of work and periodically reported to the Government about it.

The Commissioner did not have direct interference in Police or Magisterial matters but the annual Police Administration Reports from districts under his jurisdiction, were scrutinised and forwarded by him to the Government with special reference to cases relating to strictures passed against Police Officers by courts, as also the working of Arms Act and Rules.

In general administration matters he had a number of functions to perform. The Commissioner had the administrative control and supervision over all the circuit houses. He sanctioned telephone connections etc. as also was the allotting authority for Government accommodation at his headquarters. He was the Chairman of the Committee entrusted with the disposal of Purejat property. The Commissioner was the allotting authority for the Farash Khana articles under the charge of the Public Works Department at divisional headquarters. He was also the convener of Betterment Levy Board in his jurisdiction. Property Officer, Ajmer was also under his administrative control.

Besides, the Commissioner was Chairman of a number of committees such as the Tourist Advisory Committee, Survey Committee of historical development, Divisional Savings Committee, Post War Reconstruction Fund Committee, the Divisional Library Committee, etc.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Posts and Telegraphs Department

At the time when the old gazetteer was written (c. 1904), Ajmer was the headquarters of the Rajputana circle, which was controlled by a Deputy Post Master General and was divided into four divisional charges.

After merger of Ajmer with Rajasthan, the district fell into the southern division (Postal). The office of the Senior Superintendent of Post Offices of this division is stationed at Ajmer. This office, has a total strength of 16 clerks, who are all in the same grade.

There are at present 163 post offices in the whole of the district, falling under the administrative control of the two Head Post Offices at Ajmer and Nasirabad. The six telephone exchanges at Ajmer, Kekri, Beawar, Kishangarh, Bijainagar and Nasirabad are under the Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs at Ajmer.

Income Tax Department

Prior to 1926, the Sub-Divisional Officers of Ajmer State were also ex-officio Income Tax Officers. In 1926 the extra Assistant Commissioner of the Excise department, was made an ex-officio Income Tax Officer for Ajmer-Merwara. In 1932 the Income Tax Department was separated from that of Excise and a separate Income Tax Officer was appointed. At the end of 1961, there were three Income Tax Officers (one Class I and two Class II) headquartered at Ajmer town and one (Class II) at Beawar. The strength of the staff of the office of the Income Tax Officer posted at Ajmer was: one inspector, one head clerk, six upper division clerks, five lower division clerks, three stenotypists, three notice servers, six peons, one *daftry*, one *chowkidar*; one *mali* and one sweeper. The strength of the office of the Income Tax Officer posted at Beawar was: one inspector, two upper division clerks, two lower division clerks, one steno-typist, one notice server, three peons, one *chowkidar* and a *mali*.

Of the three Income Tax Officers in Ajmer town, one was incharge for A-ward whose jurisdiction extended to all persons whose place of assessment was in Ajmer district excluding Kishangarh sub-division and Beawar and Kekri tahsils other than (i) employees under the audit control of the Accountant General, Rajasthan (ii) persons whose cases were 1922) to other Income-tax Officers, (iii) persons who were assessable by allotted under section 7(A) of the Indian Income Tax Act, 1922 (XI) of Income-tax Officer, B-Ward, Ajmer. The other Income-tax Officer was incharge for B-Ward and his jurisdiction extended over all persons whose place of assessment was in Ajmer district excluding Beawar and Kekri tahsils, whose main source of income was from salary other than employees under the audit control of the Accountant General, Rajasthan; and also over all persons whose place of assessment was in (i) Ajmer City Municipal Ward Nos., 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 11, 16, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, 30 and 31 (ii) Kishangarh Sub-Division of Ajmer District excluding

Limited Companies and persons whose cases are allotted under Section 5(7A) of the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922 (XI of 1922) to other Income-tax Officers. The third Income-tax Officer posted at Ajmer, was incharge for the multipurpose Project Circle and had the jurisdiction over all contractors who worked under Five Year Plans in respect of the whole of Rajasthan.

The Income-tax Officer posted at Beawar enjoyed the jurisdiction over all persons other than (i) employees under audit control of the Accountant General, Rajasthan (ii) those whose cases have been transferred under section 5 (7A) of the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922 to other Income-tax officers whose place of assessment was in Beawar and Kekri tahsils of Ajmer district.

Recruiting Office

The Branch Recruiting Office at Ajmer was raised to the status of Head Quarter Recruiting Zone IV, Ajmer in April 1958. The main function of the office is to disseminate information and provide such assistance as it can, to persons desiring careers in the different branches of the country's defence forces. Representatives of the office undertake tours in the interior to explain to the people the opportunities available to them in these services. Lectures are also delivered in schools and colleges. Special recruiting Camps are held during fairs. There are separate officers dealing with recruitment to the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. Recruiting to Air Force is carried out by the Air Force Recruiting Officer, Flying College, Jodhpur.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India transferred this office to Ajmer from Ambala in July, 1950. A conciliation officer (Control) is posted at Ajmer. His main task is to ensure industrial peace by settling disputes between the labour and the management. His office staff consists of two lower division clerks, one of whom looks after conciliation, labour laws, establishment, accounts etc. and the other deals with stationery, stores and correspondence.

National Savings Office

Under the National Savings Scheme, an Assistant Regional Director of National Savings has been posted at Ajmer. He supervises the work of three District Small Savings Organizers. The three other districts besides Ajmer, are Pali, Sirohi and Bhilwara. The Assistant Regional Director is responsible to the Regional Director of National Savings Organisation, stationed at Jaipur. The achievements for the past four years are as below:—

Year	Deposits	Withdrawals	Net Collections
1956-57	1,26,49,468	88,79,914	37,69,554
1957-58	1,13,42,658	90,31,735	23,10,923
1958-59	1,26,08,749	1,12,52,327	13,56,422
1959-60	1,39,92,334	1,37,42,872	2,49,462
1960-61	1,53,20,746	1,44,17,741	9,03,005

Indian Bureau of Mines

A regional office of the Indian Bureau of Mines was opened at Ajmer in January, 1957 having jurisdiction over the whole of Rajasthan, Gujarat and certain parts of M.P. and U.P. The head of the office is designated as the Regional Controller of Mines who is assisted by one Deputy Controller of Mines, two Asstt. Controller of Mines and two Junior Mining Geologists, who are vested with inspection powers also. The ministerial staff consists of one head assistant, one stenographer, two upper division clerks, two lower division clerks, one senior draftman, one junior surveyor, one tracer, one time keeper and three drivers. The unit is engaged in inspection of work of Mines and Field investigations with a view to ensure scientific and systematic mining and conservation of minerals and development of mineral resources. The unit has recently taken up a systematic survey of the mineral wealth of the tract in collaboration with the Department of Mines and Geology of the Government of Rajasthan.

All India Radio

A station of the All India Radio was established in 1955, at Ajmer. The station relays the programme broadcast from the Jaipur station. There is only one transmitter. The staff consists of one Station Engineer, two Assistant Engineers, three Shift Assistants, three mechanics, two drivers, one store keeper, three clerks, one stenographer, besides the normal complement of class IV staff.

Field Publicity Officer

An office of the Field Publicity Officer was established at Ajmer in 1958. The office educates public opinion on the various facts of planning and its achievement in the country. The officer is helped in his duties by a staff consisting of projection and field assistants and a small office.

Central Public Works Department

Prior to 1933, the Rajputana Public Works Department Ajmer formed a part of the British administration in Rajputana. It was under the charge of a Superintending Engineer who was secretary to the agent to Governor-General, Rajputana in the Public Works Department and was also in charge of the Public Works Division of the Western Indian States. In 1933, the Department was amalgamated with the Central Public Works Department and is now under the charge of the Superintending Engineer, First Circle, Central Public Works Department, New Delhi controlling the Ajmer and Neemuch sub-divisions.

Life Insurance Corporation

Ajmer is the seat of the Divisional office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India in Rajasthan. This place was selected for establishing its divisional office because of the central situation and also because of the fact that the head office of one of the Insurance Companies i.e. General Assurance Society existed previously at Ajmer which was equipped with the Adrema and Hollerith Machines, which are very essential for any Divisional Office of the Corporation. It was established on 1st September, 1956 with five branches at Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Udaipur and Ajmer respectively. Prior to the nationalisation of the Insurance Companies, the average annual volume of business in Rajasthan was 325 lakhs, but in later years, the business increased rapidly as will appear from the following figures:—

Year ending 31st March		Completed business (in lakhs)
1957	—	605
1958	—	904
1959	—	1,252
1960	—	1,826
1961	—	2,467

Although the Divisional Office for whole of Rajasthan functions from Ajmer, one Divisional Office Unit for underwriting new business, works at Jaipur also.

The total number of employees in Ajmer Divisional Office was initially 247 but due to the expansion of the life insurance business, the number of employees had increased to 807 in the year 1961. The Development Officers, previously known as Field Officers, organise the field for providing business.

The chief aim and object of the Life Insurance Corporation of India is to insure every insurable person. To achieve this noble object, Life Insurance Corporation of India in Rajasthan have also extended their activities deep into the interior areas, most of which were never covered by any previous insurance company.

Office of the Assistant Collector, Central Excise Integrated Divisional Office, Ajmer

There is a Central Excise Integrated Divisional Office with headquarters at Ajmer under the charge of an Assistant Collector, assisted by three Superintendents. Formerly, there was only a Divisional Office under the charge of an Assistant Collector at Ajmer, controlling different Central Excise Circles in Rajasthan. There are eleven districts of Rajasthan under the jurisdiction of this division having 27 range offices, controlled by the Deputy Superintendents and Inspectors of Central Excise.

This Unit was established on 1-7-1962.

The Ajmer office has a strength of one Assistant Collector, three Superintendents, two Deputy Superintendents (Executive), eight Inspectors, eight sub-Inspectors, two Deputy Superintendents (M), two head clerks, 12 upper division clerks, 18 lower division clerks, three steno-typists, two drivers, two daftaries and 26 sepoys.

The activities of this department include the assessment and realization of Central Excise Duties and also intelligence and preventive action, in connection with the excisable commodities, gold and customs work. The Central Excise Officers are empowered to perform various duties under the Customs Act.

The statement of revenue for the following four years is as follows:

Year	Total Revenue	Sources of Revenue
1957-58	26,18,637/-	Unmanufactured
1958-59	28,11,780/-	Tobacco, V. N. C.
1959-60	28,60,252/-	Oil, Cotton, Fabrics,
1960-61	28,03,442/-	Copper and Copper alloys, Aluminium.

Deputy Inspector General of Police, Central Reserve Police

The Deputy Inspector General, Central Reserve Police has his

headquarters at Ajmer. Prior to 1st November, 1956 when State of Ajmer merged with Rajasthan, he was in over-all charge of the Central Reserve Police and Ajmer District Police. Consequent on the merger, he was exclusively made responsible for administration of the Central Reserve Police under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and the Ajmer District Police was placed under the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Rajasthan, Ajmer Range.

The various units and offices of the Central Reserve Police headquartered at Ajmer, are as under; the dates of commencement given against each :—

1. Office of Deputy Inspector General of Central Reserve Police	1.11.1956
2. III Battalion	7.3.1958
3. X Battalion	13.8.1960
4. XIII Battalion	1.11.1962
5. XIV Battalion	1.12.1962

During the British regime the Crown Representative's Police was created by the Political Department in July, 1939. This force had a limited objective of assisting the police force in the then princely States, when hard pressed by the menace of dacoits or other criminal elements. After independence, the Crown Representative's Police became the Central Reserve Police. Its functions are now to assist the State police to maintain law and order under disturbed conditions and to protect the frontiers of the motherland against infiltration, whenever required, to do so.

Deputy Central Intelligence Officer

This office was formerly stationed at Udaipur but was shifted to Ajmer in 1959. The jurisdiction of the Deputy Central Intelligence Officer extends to Kota and Udaipur Divisions i.e. Udaipur, Bhilwara, Chittorgarh, Banswara, Dungarpur, Kota, Bundi and Jhalawar districts. This is under the control of Intelligence Officer Rajasthan, who has direct connection with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.

The establishment of this office consists of one Deputy Central Intelligence Officer, three Assistant Intelligence Officers, one junior Intelligence Officer, one stenographer and five class IV servants.

Divisional Superintendent Western Railway

Ajmer was the headquarters of the metre-gauge system of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway. At present there is the office of the Divisional Superintendent, which was established on 1st August, 1956. This Division serves the Rajasthan and Gujarat States, the boundary cutting the railway track near Shri Amirgarh station, between Abu Road and Palanpur. The division consists of three well defined portions called locally (a) the Main line (b) the Gandhidham section and (c) the Udaipur branch. The main line serves from Ajmer to Palanpur. The Gandhidham section extends from Palanpur to Gandhidham and includes, the New Kandla Bhuj line. The Udaipur branch consisting mostly of the old Mewar State Railway (later Rajasthan Railway), runs in the shape of a cross intersecting at Maoli junction, the two arms running from Marwar junction to Badi Sadri and from Udaipur to Chittorgarh.

The total route mileage of the division is 670, which is more or less equally shared by the three sections indicated above. (Main line 224, Gandhidham section 231 and Udaipur branch 215). The Divisional Superintendent, Ajmer is assisted by nine senior scale and 27 junior scale officers, of which latter ten officers are headquartered outside Ajmer.

The office is divided into various sections to facilitate efficient disposal of work. Staffing pattern of these branches is shown below:

Branch	Office Supdt.	Chief Clerks	Head Clerks	Senior Clerks	Clerks	Junior Clerks	Total
General	1	—	1	5	7	2	16
Mechanical	—	1	3	7	13	—	24
Operating	—	—	3	4	6	1	14
Stores	—	—	4	5	6	—	15
Budget & Works	—	—	2	6	9	—	17
Accounts and							
Establishment	—	1	13	42	84	—	140
Commercial	—	—	2	7	10	1	20
Total	1	2	28	76	135	4	246

Besides, there is a separate drawing office divided into copying and drawing branches. The drawing branch has one Chief Draftsman, two Design Assistants, Three Estimators, two Junior Estimators, two Drafts-

man of grade B, 11 Junior Draftsmen, nine Tracers and two Ferrotypists, thus making a total of 32. The copying branch has three confidential Assistants, 10 stenographers, three head typists and 13 typists.

A number of Inspectors and other staff is also attached to the office. These are as shown below:—

Welfare Inspectors	—	4
Assistant Welfare Inspectors	—	7
Statistical Inspector	—	1
Inspector, Hours of Employment Regulation	—	1
Assistant Inspector, House of Employment Regulation		1
Cipher Operator	—	1
Janitor	—	1
Assistant Personnel Inspectors	—	2

Office of the District Electrical Engineer, Railways

The office of the District Electrical Engineer is located at Ajmer. This unit is functioning independently since 1st August, 1956.

The strength of the permanent staff of this office is 951, which includes two officers, 62 supervisors, 828 artisans and the rest are ministerial and IV class staff.

This district is maintaining two power houses—Railway Power House Nagra, Ajmer, having a capacity of 4,500 Kw. and Railway Power House, Budha Pushkar, having a capacity of 200 Kw. In addition to its own electricity, the Railway is also purchasing electricity from Messrs Amalgamated Electricity Co. Ajmer, to the tune of about 1,000 Kw. for railway staff quarters.

The district (Railway) is maintaining 1337 electric motors for Carriage and Signal Workshops, Ajmer and attends to the wiring and repairs of coaches, locomotives and air conditioned coaches. It also maintains the Electrical and Mechanical Speedometers fitted on Locomotives and Pyrometers fitted on all furnaces working on metre gauge, and broad gauge sheds and depots over Western Railway.

Office of the Deputy Chief Accounts Officer (Traffic Accounts)

Besides the office of the Divisional Superintendent Western Railway, there is a separate office of the Deputy Chief Accounts Officer (Traffic Accounts).

The total sanctioned strength of staff for this office is 1,071 including senior and junior accountants, sub-heads, I and II grade clerks and typists etc. Besides, there are 80 Senior and Junior Inspectors of Station accounts.

The Traffic Accounts Office, Ajmer is mainly conducting internal check of local traffic earnings of the whole Western Railway and compilation of the entire earnings of the Western Railways both local and foreign. The Inspectoral staff is to check the initial documents pertaining to Railway earnings at the stations.

Office of the Deputy Chief Auditor, Western Railway, Ajmer

Linked with the Railway, is an organisation of Indian Audit and Accounts Department with Deputy Chief Auditor as its head, functioning sub-ordinate to the Chief Auditor, Western Railway, Bombay. It was established in 1934. Its present strength is 61, which includes two gazetted officers. The function of the organisation is to audit the railway accounts pertaining to traffic of Ajmer and Jaipur Division and workshop and stores (MG) department of Western Railway.

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT

History

Though no records are available, it is probable that village panchayats existed in this area even before the feudal system was firmly established. Once this happened, local government in the villages virtually disappeared and the people had to obey the dictates of others rather than have their corporate life supervised by their own chosen representatives. However, in several communities such as the Rajputs, Brahmans, Oswals, etc., there continued to exist councils known as *jat-panchayats*. These panchayats merely performed certain social functions directed towards protecting the interests of the communities they served. They had no official powers or even functions.

The British recognized the feudal system and maintained the privileges of the *jagirdari* clans. Though municipalities were established in the towns, the rural areas were not given the benefit of electing popular bodies. In Merwara the panchayats were never legally recognised among the Mers but they had only social sanction and the cases having reference to the abduction of women, breach of promise of marriage, claim to land, debts, settlement of boundary disputes, minor cases of *faujdaree* etc. In fact, in all the matters of complaints of wrong sustained or injury done with exception of higher cases of crime, the panchayat was the chief instrument employed in the distribution of justice amongst these primitive people.

Officially recognized panchayats were established for the first time, in 1954 when Ajmer State Panchayat Act was passed. Under this Act 127 Gram Panchayats were set up. These were placed under the Tahsil Panchayats of Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri covering 54, 34 and 39 panchayats respectively. In the succeeding years more panchayats came into existence and the process was considerably speeded up with the introduction of the scheme of democratic decentralisation. At the end of 1960-61, there were 275 panchayats in the district. The Tahsil Panchayats were abolished in 1959. Their place was taken by the panchayat samitis whose jurisdiction coincided with the development blocks and 'Shadow' blocks. At the district headquarters Zila Parishad was established to co-ordinate local development activities for the whole district.

The administration report of Kishangarh for the year 1937-38

mentions that 16 Panchayat Boards were working in the State. These boards were authorised to deal with local civil suits of minor nature and derived their income from fines and taxes etc. During the year 1939-40, they disposed of 267 cases. The number of these panchayats had increased to 18, though only 13 were working efficiently. In 1940-41, it was felt by the State Council, that these Panchayats were not working soundly, and it had suggested formulation of rules and constitution of one Panchayat Board under which all the villages of the State could be covered. However, no action was taken on these lines. The Rajasthan Panchayat Act of 1953 was made applicable to Kishangarh which then formed a part of the Jaipur district. Under this act Panchayats and tahsil panchayats were formed in this area. No changes occurred in this system when this area was transferred to Ajmer in 1956.

In the towns, local government was introduced earlier. The first municipality in the district was established at Beawar in 1867. Ajmer and Kekri followed in 1869 and 1879. Pushkar had to wait till 1950 for having a municipality. Though Municipal administration was introduced in Kishangarh, Sarwar and Rupangarh towns of Kishangarh State before 1904-05, yet only the municipalities of Kishangarh and Sarwar worked effectively. The exact date of establishment of these municipalities is not known. At first the membership was purely official but later an elective element was introduced. After the passing of the Rajasthan Town Municipalities Act in 1951, wider powers and responsibilities were given to these bodies. The Nasirabad Cantonment Board was established in the year 1818. The Ajmer-Merwara district board, established in 1888, has now ceased to exist and its functions have been taken over by Zila Parishad from October, 1959. In 1960-61, an urban improvement trust was established for Ajmer city to promote its planned development.

MUNICIPALITIES

Beawar

Exactly after 31 years of the foundation date of Beawar city, the municipal committee was constituted on 1st May, 1867 under the Government of India Act No. 26 of 1850. With the passage of some time, the Municipal Improvement North-Western Provinces Act No. VI of 1868, came into force. The municipal committee consisted of 15 members: 12 elected and three ex-officio members. Later on, the North-West Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act XV of 1873 came repealing the previous act in force. In 1886 the Ajmer Municipality regulation of 1886, came into force repealing the North-West Pro-

vines and Oudh Municipalities Act XV of 1873. After 1888, the strength of the committee was increased to 20 members out of which fifteen were elected, four ex-officio and one was nominated. The Assistant Commissioner of Merwara was its Chairman. Prior to 1888, elections were held triennially; thereafter till 1897, a third of the elected members went out of office annually, but again from 1897, elections were held triennially.

In the year 1926, the Ajmer-Merwara Municipalities Regulation VI of 1925 came into force repealing the old regulation of 1886. The body of the Municipal Committee was increased to 24 by the addition of four experts; (1) Sub-divisional officer, P.W.D. Merwara Sub-Division (2) Station Police Officer, Beawar (3) the Assistant Superintendent of Education, Ajmer-Merwara, Ajmer (4) the Assistant Surgeon, Beawar. Since then experts have always been associated with the administration of municipal affairs.

In the year 1951 the city was divided into eight wards, electing three members each. In 1956, the elected municipal committee was supervised and the Government nominated a committee of three members with Shri A. J. Singhani as its Chairman¹. This nominated committee worked from 12th April, 1956 to 31st July, 1957. Municipal elections were held on 30th July 1957, electing 24 members from eight wards.

The Ajmer-Merwara Municipalities Regulation, 1925 (VI of 1925) was repealed on 15th October 1959² whereafter the Rajasthan Municipalities Act 1959 (Rajasthan Act, No. XXXVIII of 1959) came into force.

In pursuance of the Rajasthan Municipalities Order 1959 (order No. 1 of 1959), the Beawar Municipality came to be called as the Beawar Municipal Council and its members as councillors; its Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Executive Officer, as President, Vice-President and Commissioner respectively.

PRESENT ORGANIZATION—The municipal area is divided into 21 wards, out of which five are double member wards with reserved seats for scheduled castes. Two ladies have been co-opted as members. All

1. Vide its Notification No. S. R. O. 832 (31)/5/55 L. S. G. dated 9th April, 1956.

2. Vide Notification No. D. 6617/F4 (34) L. S. G./A/59 dated 15th October, 1959.

the twenty eight members are entitled to vote for the election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

The municipal council provides employment to 377 people in its seven sections, namely, General Administration (19), tax collection (63), Sanitation (207), Public Works (48), Water Works (21), Garden (16) and Pounds (3). The following table shows the staff strength in various sections and sub-sections:—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—One head clerk, an accountant, four senior clerks, six junior clerks and seven class IV employees.

TAX-COLLECTION—This section is divided into three sub-sections, namely, Octroi, house tax and other taxes. In Octroi sub-section, there is an Octroi Superintendent, one Octroi Inspector, one refund Supervisor, thirty one Moharrirs, one cashier, one B.W.H. Moharrir and eight class IV servants. In house tax section, there is an Assessor, six house tax inspectors, one senior clerk, one junior clerk and one peon, and in other taxes sub-section, there is one tax collection inspector, an assistant T.C.I., Licence sub-inspector, three junior clerks and three IV class servants.

SANITATION—One Health Officer, one Chief Sanitary Inspector, three Sanitary Inspectors, two Assistant Sanitary Inspectors, one junior clerk, one vaccinator, one head jamadar and 12 IV class servants and 185 sweepers.

PUBLIC WORKS—An engineer, two overseers, four draughtsmen, one mistry, one mechanic, eight drivers, one senior clerk, two junior clerks and twenty eight class IV servants.

WATER WORKS—One water works supervisor, two water works mistries, two pump drivers and 16 class IV employees.

GARDEN—One Chaudhary and fifteen IV class employees.

POUNDS—Two Impounders and one IV class employee.

POWERS AND DUTIES—The main duties of the committee are Sanitation and Public Health, Water Supply, Lighting, Public Utility Constructions and Miscellaneous. These are described below:

SANITATION—The municipality, has 5 trucks, 5 tractors, 3 trolleys, 88 wheelbarrows and 12 bullock carts for removing waste from the city, which is composted. More than 185 sweepers are employed to clean the streets daily. They are supplied with phenyle and powder disinfectants for use in the municipal latrines and urinals.

WATER SUPPLY—There are 2 water works, Jalia and Makrera. Jalia water works was constructed in 1913 and was designed to cater for the water needs of 23,000 souls, the then population of the town. Water from Jalia water works is drawn principally from two open wells located in the rear of Jalia tank embankment. The wells have depth of 38 feet and 43 feet and diameter of 15 feet and 10 feet respectively. The water table of these wells is 36 feet below the ground level.

Besides these two wells, there is another open well, 36 feet deep and 40 feet in diameter in the bottom of which two bores have been sunk, one 280 feet deep and of 3 inches diameter and the other 225 feet deep and of 2 inches diameter. The water is drawn by means of air lift pumps, but the yield is not substantial. The total supply from this water works is 80,000 gallons a day. The supply is made through a 5 inches diameter rising main about 4 miles long and water is collected in a service reservoir near "Chang" gate from where it is catered through a net-work of distribution pipes.

MAKRERA WATER WORKS—Another source in the rear of the embankment of the Makrera tank was located by the Geological Survey of India. As there was an acute scarcity of water in 1951-52 and it was being supplied at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head as against desirable 15 to 22 gallons, the committee decided to approach the Government for loan and get the work of constructing the new water works at Makrera completed through the agency of the C.P.W.D. The Govt. of India sanctioned a loan of Rs. 4.50 lacs in the year 1950 and the work was taken up by the C.P.W.D. as an emergency measure. The scheme was designed to sink ten wells of 25 feet diameter, to lay a mile long rising main of 10 inches diameter and to construct a service reservoir of 2.50 lac gallons capacity at Mataji-ki-Doongri. Although pumping of water was commenced from 7th May, 1952, the whole scheme was completed in the year 1959.

The water is disinfected by means of chlorination. There are 1,186 water connections out of which only 897 are metered. The work of metering the connections is slow owing to the non-availability of meters. The rate of charges is Re. 1 per thousand gallons, subject to a minimum of Rs. 3 per month. The water is supplied for only $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours in a day. In summer, the pumps are worked to their full capacity. The number of street taps is 289.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF WATER WORKS—The water works is run in deficit. This year (1960-61), the income and expenditure from

water works was Rs. 1,90,050 and Rs. 1,96,350 respectively. The deficit is met out of the general revenues of the Municipal fund and efforts are being made to enhance the income by means of metering the water connections progressively and to prevent the wastage of water by limiting the number of public hydrants.

WATER SCHEME UNDER PREPARATION—Since the present two water works are not sufficient to meet the growing demand of the town, the Chief Engineer, Health, Rajasthan has prepared a scheme costing Rs. 15,70,000 to sink further wells, to change Jalia rising main and to effect further necessary improvements. The scheme when implemented will make a provision of 10 gallons of water per day per head. It is pending for government sanction.

LIGHTING—The municipality does not own a power house, but arranges for street lighting. There are 795 electric lamps of 60 watts each in the city. The electric energy is supplied by the power house run by a private concern viz. the Beawar Electric Supply Co. Ltd., Beawar. The total expenditure on street lighting comes to about Rs. 35,000 per annum.

CONSTRUCTION WORK—Construction and maintenance of roads in the town is under the control of the municipality. Beawar is one of the oldest cities in the country which has been laid out in a planned manner.

There are open surface drains in the city. The drains in front of the houses have been constructed by house owners and road cross drains and main *nalas* (exits) have been constructed by the municipal council out of the municipal funds. The work of construction of major *nalas* was taken in hand in 1958. A scheme costing about Rs. 1,09,407 was prepared by the Additional Chief Engineer, Health, Rajasthan, against which loans of Rs. 72,420 and Rs. 23,000 have been obtained from the government in years 1959-60 and 1960-61 respectively. Five major *nalas* have so far been constructed with the total length of 4,500 feet. Due to the acute scarcity of water in this area, the idea of having sewage system was never thought of.

NAZUL PROPERTY—The nazul properties were placed under the management of this council for the first time in 1906¹. This was further superseded² by the rules made in 1932. The Rajasthan Government

1. Vide Notification No. 1371-C-19 dated 9th December.

2. Vide Notification No. 537-103-CC/29 dated 22nd April, 1932.

have framed¹ rules for the disposal of Nazul lands in 1959. The Nazul properties were classified according to rules of 1906 as A, B, C, D out of which C class properties (local roads), were later declared as municipal. The total number of properties according to the above classification, is as below:

(A) Lands with buildings attached	(B) Building Sites	(C) Road & encroachments	(D) Other Plots	Total
13	86	353	81	533

The accounts for the income out of municipal and Nazul properties are not being maintained separately.

GARDENS—There is one garden and eleven parks in the city which are being maintained by the council at the cost of Rs. 27,000 per annum.

Financial position

The following statement shows the income and expenditure of the municipality for a selected number of years since 1883-1884:

Year	Income	Expenditure
1883-84	30,265	25,433
1890-1901	47,275	52,081
1900-01	50,843	53,669
1910-11	96,834	60,231
1920-21	97,373	1,02,375
1930-31	94,171	1,06,919
1940-41	1,68,730	1,64,242
1950-51	9,29,044	4,85,960
1955-56	11,84,123	10,24,243
1956-57	8,85,097	11,07,488
1957-58	9,63,534	9,34,271
1960-61	15,48,465	15,45,465

The municipality during 1960-61, received an income of Rs. 7,00,025 from taxes, Rs. 7,925 from Licences and other fees. Rs. 48,550

1. Vide Notification No. F. 7 (187) L. S. G./A/58 dated 8th October, 1959.

from Municipal property taxes, Rs. 14,000 from other acts, Rs. 10,000 from penalties and fines, Rs. 1,90,050 from water works and Rs. 51,400 from miscellaneous sources. During the year (1960-61) it sold land worth Rs. 35,000 and received grant and loans from government of the value of Rs. 4,48,523.

The main heads of expenditure during the year 1960-61 were: Development works, Health and Sanitation, Water Works, General Administration and Public Welfare. The municipality spent under these heads Rs. 4,38,500, Rs. 2,92,810, Rs. 1,96,350, Rs. 1,13,810 and Rs. 1,04,682 respectively. It spent Rs. 35,650 on lighting, Rs. 68,500 on tax collections, Rs. 23,375 on maintenance of parks, 8,000 on entertainments and Rs. 8,285 on the maintenance of pounds.

During the years 1890-1900, the total annual income averaged Rs. 49,525 of which octroi accounted for Rs. 39,184. The annual expenditure averaged Rs. 49,712 of which the largest item was Rs. 18,603 for administration and the collection of taxes.

The total income in 1960-61 was Rs. 15,48,465 and Octroi formed 45.8 per cent of the total income. Between 1890-1900 octroi formed 79.1 per cent of the total income. The present total income and expenditure is 31.2 and 31.1 times higher than the annual average income and expenditure of the period between 1890-1900, respectively.

Ajmer

Though the Ajmer municipality was established formally in the year 1869, the Government of India Act XXVI of 1850, was enforced in Ajmer and Beawar simultaneously on 19th October, 1866 to bring about improvements in conservancy and general welfare of the town¹. In the matter of the application of various acts, the history of the Ajmer municipality is the same as that of Beawar and Kekri. The act of 1850 was repealed and superseded in 1869 by Municipal Improvement North Western Provinces Act VI of 1868 which, in turn, was replaced by North West Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act XV of 1873, by which the municipality was authorised to realise taxes like Octroi, house tax, scavenging tax etc. Till 1884 when the principle of election was first introduced, the Municipal Committee consisted of members nominated by the Chief Commissioner, with the District Magistrate as President.

1. This act was made applicable vide notification No. 3389 dated the 19th Oct., 1866 by the Secretary to the Government North West Provinces.

Leaving a few months when one of the Deputy Secretary to Govt. of Ajmer worked in this capacity, the Assistant Commissioner continued to work as administrators from 12th March, 1953 to September 1955, when a nominated¹ Committee of 22 members was formed by the Government. This Committee with Shri Krishan Gopal Garg as its nominated Chairman, remained in office up to 10th February, 1957.² Earlier elections had been held on the 30th January, 1957 and 32 members had been elected from 32 wards. The elected Municipal Committee with Shri Jawala Prashad Sharma as its Chairman, took over in February.

The State Government in 1959 repealed³ the Ajmer Merwara Municipalities Regulation, 1925 (VI of 1925) and from 17th October, 1959 the Rajasthan Municipalities Act, 1959 (Rajasthan Act, No. XXXVIII of 1959) came into force.

In pursuance of the Rajasthan Municipalities Order 1959 (Order No. 1 of 1959), like Bawar, the Ajmer Municipality came to be known as the Ajmer Municipal Council and its members as Councillors, Chairman, Vice-Chairman and executive officer as President, Vice-President and Commissioner respectively.

The Municipal Council was superseded⁴ again on 1st February, 1961 and the Collector was appointed its administrator. This position continues. Meanwhile, the city has been redivided⁵ into 35 wards, which would be electing 38 members; wards Nos. 21, 24 and 26 sending one extra scheduled caste member each.

The Municipal Council gives employment to 1,287 persons, who are distributed in its thirteen departments, namely; General Administration 51, Taxation 117, Health and Sanitation 749 (including sweepers and *bhishtis*), Repairs to Rolling stock 25, Lighting 7, Hospital and Dispensaries 50, Water Works 88, Cattle Pound 6, Library 16, Gardens 60, Public Safety 4, P.W.D. 88 and Miscellaneous 26. The following staff has been provided in the various departments:—

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1. Vide Notification No. S.R.O. 1976 dated 9th Sept., 1955.
 2. Vide the Government of Rajasthan (LSG Deptt. A) Notification No. D 207/F(a) (46) L. S. G./56 dated 30th Nov., 1956.
 3. Vide Notification No. D 6617/F4 (34) L.S.G./A/59 dated the 15th Oct., 1959.
 4. Vide L.S.G., Government of Rajasthan, Notification No. F. (36) L. S. G./60 dated January 30, 1961.
 5. Vide L. S. G. Department Order No. F. 1 (97)/60.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—Administration is the incharge of over all administration and the Commissioner helps him in executing his orders. General administration is further divided into three sections, namely, (a) Administration, (b) Account and (c) Audit sections.

(a) **ADMINISTRATION**—One Superintendent, one Public conveyance Superintendent, P.A. to the administrator, a Steno to the Commissioner, a translator, a Hindi clerk, seven L.D.Cs., two leave reservists, one P.C.S. Moharrir, a chowkidar, one lifter, two dufftries, one picker and twelve peons form the staff of this section.

(b) **ACCOUNTS SECTION**—There is an Accountant, four senior clerks, one miscellaneous clerk, one accounts clerk, one treasurer, one lifter, two peons and two chowkidars in this section. It deals with the pay and other establishment cases of the Municipal employees.

(c) **AUDIT SECTION**—The staff in this section is one internal auditor, one senior clerk, one clerk and one peon. It is under direct supervision of the accountant and is responsible for checking the payments made by the council.

(2) **TAXATION DEPARTMENT**—Taxation department has two sections, namely, octroi section and other taxes section.

(a) **OCTROI SECTION**—It has one Octroi Superintendent, one Octroi Chief Inspector, two Octroi Inspectors, one Revenue Inspector, six L.D.Cs., forty eight Moharrirs, one Chowkidar and twenty six gate peons on its staff.

(b) **OTHER TAXES SECTION**—It has one Taxes Superintendent who is assisted by two U.D.Cs., one A.O., an Enforcement overseer, two House Tax Inspectors, 10 L.D.Cs., three tax bill Moharrirs, one thela Moharrir, one tax-bill clerk, nine class IV servants.

(3) **HEALTH AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT**—Medical Officer is the incharge of Health and Sanitation arrangements in the city. He is assisted by one Chief Sanitary Inspector, six Sanitary Inspectors, one steno to M.O., one head clerk, five L.D.Cs., six vaccinators, twenty four daroghas, nineteen drivers, sixty five class IV servants, 557 sweepers and 64 bhishtis.

(4) **REPAIRS TO ROLLING STOCK DEPARTMENT**—One mechanical foreman, three L.D.Cs., two carpenters, four black-smiths, six fitters, one motor mechanic and eight class IV servants.

(5) **LIGHTING DEPARTMENT**—One lighting inspector and six class IV servants.

(6) **HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARIES DEPARTMENT**—Two male doctors, one lady doctor, nineteen compounders, one lady health visitor, two *Dais*, one technician, one store keeper, one P.T. Radiologist, one Dentist, one eye specialist, six Vaidya and fourteen class IV servants.

(7) **WATER WORKS DEPARTMENT**—For administrative efficiency, it is divided into two sections, namely; water charges office and water works:

(a) **Water charges office**—An office superintendent, two L.D.Cs., one senior clerk, three Meter Readers, two Meter Inspectors and two peons.

(b) **Water Works**—A water works engineer, one head mechanic, six pump drivers, one masson, one electrician, one mistry, five fitters, one Jeep driver and sixty class IV servants.

(8) **CATTLE POUND DEPARTMENT**—One cattle pound moharrir and five class IV servants.

(9) **LIBRARY DEPARTMENT**—One Librarian, five clerks, two pickers and eight class IV servants.

(10) **GARDENS DEPARTMENT**—One garden clerk, two choudharies and fifty seven class IV servants.

(11) **PUBLIC SAFETY**—One fire driver and three class IV servants.

(12) **PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**—This is sub-divided into three sections, namely, (a) office establishment (b) Building and (c) Repairs of roads. Municipal Engineer is over all incharge.

(a) **Office Establishment**—Three overseers, one U.D.C., one steno, three L.D.Cs., one draftsman, one tracer and five peons.

(b) **Building section**—One Building Superintendent, one additional Building Superintendent, one Supervisory Overseer, one senior clerk, seven L.D.Cs. and 13 class IV servants.

(c) **Repairs of Roads**—One road roller driver, one sub-overseer, two mistries, three massons and forty two class IV servants.

(13) **MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENT**—This department is divided into three sections, namely, (a) law section (b) Birth and Death (c) *Nazul* side trees.

(a) *Law Section*—One Municipal Vakil, one law superintendent, three moharris, three process servers and two class IV servants.

(b) *Birth and Death Section*—One Officer for Vital Statistics, one clerk, one Birth and Death writer, one Compiler and two class IV servants.

(c) *Nazul side trees section*—Ten class IV servants.

POWERS AND DUTIES—The Committee has power to levy taxes on certain commodities and vocations, charge fees for nazul land and control constructions.

Its main duties are sanitation and public health, water supply, street lighting, maintenance of gardens and public library, providing medical facilities through its hospitals and dispensaries and public utility constructions. These are described below:—

SANITATION—Though the need for improvement in the conservancy and the drainage system, has been felt since long, scarcity of water has prevented proper removal of night soil and sullage. Before the establishment of the Municipal Committee, people used to employ private sweepers for removal of night soil and sullage. The population of the town rose rapidly after the establishment of the Railway workshop and with the increase in population, the solid and liquid filth increased in quantity as well as in concentration and above all, the progressive construction of buildings without any planning, made the cleaning of kucha drains, privies and lanes very difficult. In the year 1886, a Scheme known as "Conservancy tramway" Scheme was completed at a cost of Rs. 75,000¹ out of which Rs. 15,000 were contributed by Railway. Under this scheme, filth was collected in conservancy carts through the agency of birat sweepers (private sweepers), and these carts were driven to the various conservancy depots situated at convenient spots along the tram lines. At the stations the contents were emptied into the tramway trucks which were locked up after fillings. The trucks were then taken to the trenching ground known as "Bibi Chilla Valley" at a distance of about 4 miles from the old city.

The trucks were emptied out and their contents dumped into the trenching ground. This scheme at that time, was considered as a

1. Watson says the conservancy Tramway was constructed at a cost of about 1 lac rupees—page 113 Rajputana District Gazetteers—Ajmer-Merwara, Vol. 44.

signal achievement. The expansion of the city made this scheme inadequate, expensive and insanitary and was criticised by all concerned. Keeping in view this situation, the sanitary Commissioner strongly recommended in 1906, that "In my opinion a sanitary survey of Ajmer with schemes for the increase and improvement of the water supply, for the efficient removal of night soil and sullage, and for the draining and paving of the city be prepared under the superintendence of an engineer experienced in dealing with such schemes. The schemes could then be carried out gradually as funds become available. The alternative is the frittering away of large sums on measures of palliation involving a great waste of money and the continuance of nuisances which are offensive to the senses and dangerous to life."

This report lead the Government of India to depute Mr. A. E. Silk, Sanitary Engineer, Bengal to prepare a Sanitary Survey of Ajmer in 1907. Mr. Silk made a thorough study of the existing conservancy system which he describes thus:

"The system in vogue for the collection of night soil from private privies known as *Birat mehters* who undertake this work and who are paid not by wages but in kind by the householders whose privies they cleanse, the Municipality paying them nothing. This system is universal in the town area. These mehters have to convey the night soil in baskets to the Conservancy Tramway and no carts are used for the nightsoil from private privies. The night soil as it is removed from the privies, is covered with ashes or dust. The Railway Administration make their own arrangements for the collection and removal of the nightsoil from the workshops to the tramway, and in all other cases, private sweepers have to carry it to that point, unless the Municipality are asked to do it in which case a scavenging fee is charged. All liquid filth and sullage and street-sweepings are collected by the Municipality; the former being carried out by the Conservancy Tramway to the trenching ground, while the latter is dumped on waste ground in the town. In every sub-ward there are at least two peons, and in the town four, whose business it is to supervise the work of mehters. For every two town sub-wards there is a *jamadar* to look after the peons, but in the sub-urban wards there is one *jamadar* each. The work of the *jamadars* is supervised by two Sub-Inspectors. Some 10 years ago the Inspector had the night soil of a building occupied by 20 persons weighed and found it amounted to about $1\frac{1}{4}$ lb. per head per day or about 10,000 tons, per 50,000 persons per year. If this weighment was at all correct the total solid excreta of a population of 73,839 persons would amount to 18,768 tons but I find that in 1905-1906 only 13,877 tons

was removed by the Conservancy Tramway, leaving a balance of 5,000 tons unaccounted for, but I am told the Merwara Battalion and the Mayo College have their own trenching grounds so perhaps the total quantity of night soil produced is actually removed. In the course of one of my inspections I noticed a train of trucks going down the tramway at 7 O'clock in the evening and on enquiry into this, the fact came out that the removal of night soil and sullage is practically going on all day. The privies may possibly be cleaned in the morning, but the collection of sullage goes on morning and evening and these sullage carts are certainly offensive." He further suggested that "Measures ought to be adopted to have the collection of the night soil and sullage finished by 10 a.m. at the latest, and these should take the form of more municipal *mchters*, more carts and probably more highly paid supervision."

He suggested that the city should be provided with surface drains and the streets and gullies should be paved and made impervious because that would make the soaking of the organic matter in the ground impossible and prevent offensive smells. He recommended construction of a septic tank to utilize the sullage.

The outbreak of the influenza epidemic in 1919, again drew the attention of the administration to this problem and the services of Mr. Hocy were utilized for preparing a scheme which was estimated to cost Rs. 1,50,000. Nothing came of his report and during second decade of this century, Messrs. Lane Brown and Hewlett, a sanitary engineering firm from Lucknow, were commissioned to prepare a drainage scheme.

Both these schemes could not be put into operation due to the scarcity of water.

A new system was introduced in 1927-28 which has been described by Col. Russel, the then Public Health Commissioner of the Government of India, in the following words:—"Nightsoil and sewage are carted from the city to two so called Septic tanks which are situated on high ground in the immediate vicinity of the city. As most of the town is without any drain, most houses have cesspools and some proportion of the contents of these cesspools is removed in barrel-carts to the septic tanks, where it is used to dilute the night soil. From the tanks this septic stinking mixture gravitates along an open drain over a distance of nearly three miles until it reaches the trenching ground where it discharges into shallow earth trenches. The system if that word can be used, is one of the most insanitary to be found in India."

However, as the enquiry committee formed in 1952 observed the sanitary system of the town did not improve much between 1932-52. In the wards of the Committee it remained 'most insanitary' and unhygienic.'

Present sanitation arrangement

In July 1954, the present system of mechanised removal of night soil was introduced. The city having an area of 17 sq. miles is divided into six parts, each part is under the supervision of a sanitary inspector who is allotted a number of sweepers, *bhishtis*, *daroghas* and *jamadars*. There are also two food inspectors, one malaria inspector incharge anti-malaria work and one sanitary inspector incharge of motor-traction and the trenching ground. More than 557 sweepers are employed to clean the streets daily and to collect the rubbish and nightsoil at collecting stations. The department has 11 nightsoil trucks, 11 nightsoil and foul water tractors and ten rubbish trucks. Nearly 45 tons of rubbish and 12,500 gallons of nightsoil is removed from the city and composted. The sweepers are supplied with phenyle and powder disinfectants for use in the municipal latrines and urinals. The municipality maintains 37 public latrines and 32 urinals with 265 and 63 seats respectively in the city.

WATER SUPPLY—The principal draw-back and handicap from which Ajmer suffers, is insufficient water supply. With abundant supply of water, Ajmer, owing to its great strategic importance, picturesque surroundings and excellent climate, would undoubtedly have been one of the most populous cities of India.

The geographical location of the Ajmer city is not favourable to the storage of water. Surrounded by hills it lies at an altitude of 487.68 meters above the sea level. The land which is mostly rocky or hard soiled, slopes from north-east to south-west. Hence the rain water flows out with negligible percolation. The only tank collecting rain water is the Anasagar, situated in the heart of the city. When Ajmer was a small town, the wells and the Anasagar lake furnished sufficient supply. As the town grew bigger, particularly with the transfer of the headquarters of the Rajputana-Malwa Railway, water requirements of the city rose and the Anasagar, the only source of supply being contaminated, it became necessary to store water somewhere else. In 1892, a dam was constructed across river Bandi known after Mr. Foy the Engineer who constructed it.

The water thus stored was sufficient to meet the requirements of

the city and the railway establishments for two years. When the depth of water became less than 6ft., the height of the outlet, bed had to be raised by pumping operations. A twelve inch pipe line brought water to the city.

Another source of water supply was the lake at Budha Pushkar, situated 5 miles to the north-west of Ajmer. Though water was available in abundance here, the presence of high barrier between it and Ajmer, made installation of pumps necessary. The severe droughts between 1895 and 1904 lowered the water level at Foy Sagar so much that recourse had to be taken to this lake. A pumping plant was installed at Budha Pushkar by the Rajputana-Merwara Railway in 1899.1900. Still the water problem continued. Meanwhile, population rose rapidly and with it, the consumption. The city was consuming 99.94 million gallons per annum in 1897-98 and 257.66 million gallons per annum in 1907-08. Even during the years of plentiful rainfall the demand could be met with difficulty as the catchment area of these lakes was small and evaporation rate high (5 ft. per annum).

Mr. Leslie, the then Sanitary Commissioner of India who visited the town in 1905 A.D., recommended a thorough survey of the surrounding valleys for water. In 1907, there was so much scarcity of water that Mr. Godwin, the Loco Superintendent, made a strong representation for removal of the railway workshop from Ajmer. Fortunately, heavy rains came to rescue and the proposal was dropped. This stirred the local administration to look out for the underground sources of water. Accordingly, the services of Mr. Virenden Burg of Geological Survey of India, were obtained. He surveyed the Sagarmati and Saraswati Valleys and reported presence of abundant subsoil water. Further surveys were carried out by Mr. A. E. Silk, a Sanitary Engineer loaned by Bengal Government who found that an inch of rainfall in the 90 sq. miles catchment area of Sagarmati could collect 1300 million gallons of underground water as against the then expected demand of .814 million gallons per day in 1911 and 1.6 million gallons per day in 1940-41. According to him, the most favourite spots for sinking the wells were at Bhaonta (ten miles south of Ajmer in the bed of river Sagarmati) and at Pushkar (seven miles west of Ajmer in the bed of river Saraswati). Any one of these sources could meet the total requirements of the city.

On the basis of this report, Mr. Heinemann, the Municipal Engineer prepared estimates in 1908, costing for the first three years, sums of Rs. 8,63,243, Rs. 93,164 and Rs. 32,977 annually. Subsequent decen-

nial expansions were estimated to cost Rs. 17,172, Rs. 30,277 and Rs. 17,172 in 1921, 1931 and 1941 respectively. Thus the total amount needed for supplying 1.6 million gallons per day by 1941, was estimated to be Rs. 10,54,005 from Sagarmati. The scheme could not be implemented due to lack of finances.

A less ambitious scheme aimed at supplementing the supply of Foy Sagar from the water works at Bhaonta in Sagarmati Valley and estimated to cost Rs. 519,462, was prepared by Mr. H. C. Saunders in 1913. Work was started in 1914 and by the next year, the envisaged task of sinking fifteen wells and connecting the supply with the Foy Sagar pipe line, had been completed at a cost of Rs. 5,75,204. The Government contributed Rs. 1,20,000 and the rest of the expenditure was met by the Municipality from its own funds.

Monsoon failed for three successive years from 1921. Supply from the Bhaonta works fell to three and a half lakhs of gallons per day. More wells were dug in 1923 at a cost of Rs. 35,973, raising the capacity of the Bhaonta pumping plant to 7,00,000 gallons. The need for augmenting the water supply was felt again due to rapid rise of population in the city. The services of the water engineer, Mr. Mallet were obtained in 1923 and the B.B. & C.I. Railway sent another water engineer, Major Pogson. The latter advised sinking wells at Dumada, eight miles south of Ajmer and also recommended a boring behind the Mayo College. In 1936, Mr. I.A.R. Bromage, Superintending Engineer, Health Services, Delhi was sent by Government to Ajmer and he submitted his report on 4th April, 1936. He advocated the sinking of wells at Dumada and installing pumps at Jhalra, Diggi and Katan Rao in Ajmer. As Ajmer experienced a scarcity in 1936-37 and again 1938-39, a well was dug as an augmented measure at Dumada in 1938 at a cost of Rs. 4,140. The total quantity of water consumed during 1938-39 was 37,83,40,000 gallons or 10,36,551 gallons a day.

The scheme of Ganhera pumping station was completed in the year 1952. There are 15 wells located 10 miles away from Ajmer and nearly 9 to 10 lakh gallons of water is drawn daily from this source. The present position of these water supplying sources to Ajmer, is as follows:—

1. FOYSAGAR LAKE—The lake, known after the engineer incharge of the project, was constructed in 1892 as rain-water tank. It is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles away from Ajmer. It has 150 million cft. of storage capacity with 14 million square ft. of water spread. The catchment area is 11.5

square miles. The quantity of water depends on rainfall. One electric Centrifugal 20 HP. pump with a standbye of the same capacity, is installed at the lake. The quantity of water drawn from this lake, is about 4/6 lakh gallons per day.

A rapid gravity sand filtration plant having discharge capacity of 40,000 gallons per hour with two filter beds and 3 settling tanks, have been constructed. Water will be pumped in the Baboogarh High level service reservoir which at present, gets its supply from Ganhara only.

2. BHAONTA PUMPING STATION—Water is drawn here from 15 wells dug in the valley of Sagarmati in a spot about 14 miles away from city. This scheme was completed in 1917. An electric driven centrifugal pump with a standbye, is installed which simultaneously draws water from all the wells by the interlinked suction system and pumps it directly into the rising main. The pumping is done by the Electric Co. on contract basis.

About 6 lakh gallons of water is drawn from these wells per day.

3. GANHARA PUMPING STATION—This scheme was completed in 1952. This station draws water from the 15 wells dug in the bed of Saraswati. It is 10 miles from Ajmer. Each well is provided with a set of electric driven centrifugal pump and the total yield amounts to 9/10 lakh gallons of water daily.

4. DOODIA WELL IN SUBHASH BAGH—About one lakh gallon of water is drawn from this source.

Scheme under preparation

Thus from time to time, efforts have been made to meet the water shortage by expansion of existing plants and tapping new sources. However, the demand had always outstripped the supply. Recently, a comprehensive survey of the potential of various sources was undertaken by the state government in order to find an abundant and perennial source of water. The choice fell on river Banas. A project expected to be taken in hand during the third five year Plan, envisages construction of a dam at Bilaspur. A 67 mile 21 inches pipeline would bring water from the dam in the city. Purchase of pipes worth Rs. 67 lakh had already been made by the end of the Second Plan. It is expected that by the end of the third Five Year Plan, one pipe line would be laid increasing the present supply of 21 lakh gallons to 59 lakh gallons per day. Upto

this stage, the estimated expenditure would Rs. 225 lakh. The second stage envisages laying of a similar pipe line to raise the supply to 97 lakh gallons per day. When fully implemented, this scheme is expected to solve the water supply problem for a long time to come. A scheme has also been prepared for extension of Bhaonta and Ganhera water works to meet the increased requirements till the completion of the Banas project and is awaiting approval of the government.

The total population of the city according to 1960-61 census is 2,30,999 and the water supply per capita is, 7.5 gallons, (against the desirable supply of 15-22 gallons per day) for high zone and 10 gallons per capita to low zone. The total quantity supplied per day is 25 lakh gallons during summer and about 18 lakh gallons during winter. The total quantity of water supplied in the city in the year 1960-61 from all the sources, was 777.36 million gallons.

In his book *Kingdoms of Yesterday* (pages 154-55) Sir Arthur Canningham Lothian, once A.G.C. Rajputana and Chief Commissioner, Ajmer, has observed that Ajmer would have been a better site for the capital of India than Delhi. The only difficulty regarding paucity of water could have been overcome by piping a supply from the Banas near the Raj Mahal hills, some thirty miles away.

Financial position of water supply

A study of the budget figures for last twelve years, reveals that the Municipality has been incurring losses on the water supply system. Thus the total income from the water charges during this period was 28,64,314 as against the total expenditure of Rs. 78,81,550. The income from water supply in the year 1960-61 was Rs. 3,62,937 and expenditure Rs. 6,14,975.

LIGHTING—The municipality does not own any power house. It arranges for street lighting through the Amalgamated Electricity Co., Ltd., paying it electric energy charges on fixed rate per lamp per month. There are 3,275 street lights, (625 of 100 watts each, 2,617 of 25 watts each and 33 mercury vapour of 80 watts each) involving an expenditure of Rs. 9,935 per month. In addition to this, the municipality has to pay an amount of Rs. 7,000 yearly to meet fifty per cent of the cost of damages and full cost of replacement of fused bulbs of mercury vapour lamps. In addition to the above electric lights, 52 kerosene oil lamps have been provided at the places, to which electricity lines do not extend as yet.

GARDENS—There are ten gardens, one nursery and one vegetable farm maintained by the municipality.

LIBRARY—The municipal library was established in 1700 A.D. At present there are 20,994 books in the library.

MEDICAL FACILITIES—The municipality provides medical facilities to its citizens through its only hospital and eight dispensaries. For details the chapter on Medical and Public Health Services may be seen.

CONSTRUCTION—Construction and maintenance of roads in the towns is under the control of the municipality. An amount of Rs. 33,27,221 has been spent in the construction of the roads during the last twelve years.

The drains in the city are of open surface type meeting in three main nallas, namely, Anasagar escape channel (under construction), Madar gate and Andheripulia nalla. In the last twelve years an amount of Rs. 2,45,871 has been spent on the construction of the drains of the city. A loan of Rs. 5,31,220 was sanctioned¹ for the purpose, by the Government of Rajasthan. The construction work was started the same day. Up till March 1961, an amount of Rs. 1,25,075 has been spent in the construction of drains. The work is being supervised by the Assistant Engineer water works, Sub-division, Rajasthan, P.W.D. Ajmer.

FINANCIAL POSITION—The following statement shows the income and expenditure of the municipality in selected periods over the past 89 years.

Year	Income	Expenditure
1872	26,006	N. A.
1883-84	1,06,838	89,069
1890-91	1,49,345	1,41,294
1900-01	1,78,158	1,85,998
1910-11	2,94,824	2,04,168
1920-21	3,52,060	3,47,782
1930-31	5,12,781	4,90,298
1940-41	6,40,089	5,26,019

1. Vide its department order No. B 1,791/F7 (69) L. S. G. dated 9-3-60.

Year	Income	Expenditure
1950-51	27,35,973	37,04,565
1955-56	26,42,936	21,15,349
1960-61	39,49,870	38,98,516

The chief sources of income of the municipality in year 1960-61 were taxation fee from licences, income from Municipal Property, income derived through other Acts applicable in the municipality, Penalties and fines, Water Works and sale of land. It earned Rs. 22,52,627.62, Rs. 21,742.62, Rs. 87,751.18, Rs. 23,150, Rs. 16,312.25, Rs. 3,62,939.61, Rs. 73,617.07 respectively, through these sources. During this year municipality received grants and loans from Government worth Rs. 50,000. Main heads of expenditure of the municipality during the year were:

General Administration	2,20,638.75
Taxation	2,01,366.36
Public Health and Sanitation	7,97,595.97
Street lighting	1,01,765.23
Water charges	4,41,011.89
Hospital and Dispensaries	1,91,004.96
Reading Room and Library	39,091.25
Maintenance of gardens and parks	55,022.32
Festivals	85,101.01
Public Safety	19,501.01
Education	23,237.63
P.W.D. Repairs	2,56,230.44
Construction and Development works	5,21,955.78

Kekri

The Municipal Board at Kekri was established in July, 1879 in the form of a nominated Municipal Committee, under the provisions of the North-West Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act XV of 1873. The strength of the committee, including its Chairman, the Deputy Commissioner-cum-Collector of Ajmer, used to be nine. The nominations were made by the Chief Commissioner on the basis of the recommendation of the S.D.O., Kekri. In 1882 the functions of the

Chairman of the Municipal Committee were handed over to the S.D.O., Kekri. On 31st March, 1927, the total strength of the committee¹ was increased from nine to eleven members. In 1931, the number was increased to thirteen, of whom six (two Mohammadans and four Hindus) were to be elected. Residence, educational and property qualifications restricted the number of voters. The number of elected members was increased from six to eight in the year 1943. In the year 1946, the S.D.O., Kekri ceased to work as the Chairman and a body of 14 members (8 elected and 6 nominated) was allowed to elect its own Chairman. Shri Kanmal, present Chairman of the Municipal Board has the honour of being the first Chairman elected in the year 1946. The system of restricted suffrage was abolished in the year 1952, the city was divided into three wards, each ward sending four members, including a reserved seat for scheduled castes from ward No. 2. This continued till 1959 when the Rajasthan Municipality Act XXXVIII of 1959 came into force. Since March, 1961 the Kekri Municipal Committee came to be known as Kekri Municipal Board.

PRESENT ORGANIZATION—Since the last elections, which were held in March, 1961, the city has been divided into eight wards: Six wards are single member wards and the remaining two are double member wards, in the double member wards one seat each in the wards is reserved for the scheduled caste. The body of 10 elected members has further co-opted two female members in order to give due representation to women in the administration of the civic body. The Executive Officer, as in other cases, is appointed by the Director of Local Bodies of the State.

The office establishment has six sections namely, general establishment, tax collection, health and sanitation, lighting, public works department and miscellaneous with the following establishment:—

GENERAL ESTABLISHMENT—One head clerk-cum-accountant, four clerks and seven class IV employees.

TAX COLLECTION—One inspector, two clerks,¹ twenty moharrirs, one pound moharrir and three class IV employees.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION—One part time health officer, one sanitary inspector, one vaccinator, three jamadars, four drivers, thirty four sweepers and seven part-time sweepers (*Bhishties* etc.).

1. Vide Notification No. 1909 (e) 41 dated 2-12-1925.

LIGHTING—Three lightmen looking after the street lights.

PUBLIC WORKS—One overseer, one mistry and two class IV employees.

There is also one part time librarian and one driver. Labourers are engaged on contract basis for supplying water in the city.

Thus, including the Executive Officer, the total strength of the full time staff is 93.

POWERS AND DUTIES—Powers and duties of the municipality have been governed, since the date of establishment, by the various acts (which have already been mentioned in its constitutional history paragraph) which were applicable to this municipality also.

Its main duties are sanitation and public health, lighting, water supply and public utility constructions.

SANITATION—There are five tractors with two trolleys, twenty four wheel barrows and three trucks, which make a number of rounds daily to gather up refuse. Daily, nearly three tons of refuse and $5\frac{1}{2}$ tons of sullage water mixed with nightsoil, is carted away and composted. Thirty four full time sweepers and seven part time sweepers are employed to clean the streets. They are supplied with phenyl and powder disinfectants for use in the municipal latrines and urinals.

WATER WORKS—A part of the population is supplied water by the municipality since 1959. Two pumping sets draw water from the wells which is carried away by means of two municipal tractors. Rest of the people draw water from the private wells.

LIGHTING—The municipal committee does not own a power house. Electricity is supplied in the city by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board. The municipality arranges for street lighting. There are 122 electric bulbs, 35 oil lamps and 21 gas lamps to light the streets. In 1960-61 the expenditure on lighting was Rs. 13,771.

CONSTRUCTION—Construction and maintenance of roads in the town is under the control of the municipality. Four types of roads have been constructed in the city, namely, cemented, coal-tar, metalled and kuchcha. The total length of the coal-tar roads is 2.132 feet constructed with an expenditure of Rs. 44,000. Till 1960-61 the total

amount spent on construction of metalled roads with a total length of 4,725 feet, was Rs. 28,336.

Other public utility constructions made by the municipality, are the municipal office building, ten garrages, two quarters, one library building, eight octroi out-posts, four wells, primary and middle school buildings (now multipurpose higher secondary school), a *Dharamshala* and four parks.

FINANCIAL POSITION—The following statement shows the income and expenditure of the municipality in the selected years during the last 77 years.

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1883-84	4,420	5,074
1890-91	8,693	8,401
1901-02	11,711	11,644
1910-11	11,460	9,073
1920-21	17,729	18,759
1930-31	24,437	23,586
1937	41,049	37,047
1940	47,761	49,115
1956	93,452	1,03,020
1956-57	1,01,198	90,615
1957-58	1,47,697	1,33,990
1958-59	1,76,594	1,49,232
1959-60	1,43,789	1,97,332
1960-61	2,60,647	2,47,663

The budget of the municipality in the year 1960-61, with major heads of income and expenditure, is as follows:—

Income (Year 1960-61)

Heads	Amount
RECURRING	
1. Octroi	— 1,36,979
2. Realization under bye laws	— 5,993
3. Revenue derived from Municipal property and powers	— 9,759
4. Realization under other acts	— 4,134
5. Penalties	— 188
6. Income from water supply	— 7,194
7. Misc.	— 6,486
Total recurring income	— <u>1,70,733</u>

NON-RECURRING

8. Sale proceeds of loans	— 10,249
9. Grants and loans Rs. 24,003 and Rs. 55,000 respectively	— 79,003
10. Deposits	— 662
Total non-recurring income	— <u>89,914</u>

Recurring and + Non-recurring = Grand Total
 1,70,733 + 89,914 = 2,60,647

Expenditure (Year 1960-61)**RECURRING**

1. General Administration	— 24,573
2. Octroi collection charges	— 25,892
3. Public health and conveyance	— 60,501
4. Hospital and Dispensaries	— 120
5. Lighting	— 13,771
6. Water expenses	— 9,219
7. Pound	— 3,851
8. Library and reading room	— 5,362
9. Garden	— 251
10. Fairs	— 4,076
11. Education	— 720
12. Public work repair	— 9,203
13. Misc.	— 14,481
	<u>1,72,020</u>

Heads	Amounts
NON-RECURRING	
14. Construction and development work	— 47,505
15. Repayment of loans	— 16,225
16. Other (deposits and advances)	— 11,913
	<u>75,643</u>
Recurring	— 1,72,020
Non-recurring	— 75,643
GRAND TOTAL	— <u>2,47,663</u>

Both income and expenditure have risen rapidly since 1908-1909. By 1960-61, income had risen to Rs. 2,60,647 from Rs. 19,239 in 1908-09 and expenditure to Rs. 2,47,663 from Rs. 15,525 in 1908-09.

Kishangarh

From the available records, it is known that the local government institutions came into existence in the Kishangarh state at the turn of this century. The Municipalities at Kishangarh and Sarwar, were functioning properly in 1905-06, while the Municipality at Rupangarh though mentioned in records, never functioned in practice. These municipalities were established by the Darbar, to supervise sanitation arrangements. All the members were nominated, a majority belonging to the official class. Nominations were made by the Development member in the State Council with the recommendations of Hakim Pargana. In the year 1943, Kishangarh Municipalities Act was enacted and the electorate was divided into nine and five wards in the two areas, returning a member from every ward. An amendment to the law was made in the year 1947 and according to it, the ruler retained the power to nominate two members in Kishangarh Municipal Committee and one in Madanganj Municipal Committee, Madanganj, which functioned as a separate municipality till 1947, was also merged in Kishangarh Municipality and election to the amalgamated body held on 16-8-47. The first Chairman of this body was Shri Ghanshyam Dass Chaudhri.

The electorate was restricted by the educational, property and social status qualifications. Later on, the old Kishangarh Municipalities Regulation was repealed by U.P. Municipalities Act and thereafter, the Rajasthan Town Municipalities Act of 1951 came into force on 22nd December, 1951. It remained in force till the Rajasthan Municipalities Act of 1959 came into force on 17th Oct., 1959.

PRESENT ORGANIZATION—The city is divided into seventeen wards, fourteen of them being single and three double member wards providing reserved seats for scheduled castes. Two members are, co-opted by elected members. The electorate consists of 11,920 persons. The members have elected the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

The Municipal Board employs 185 persons, who are distributed in its six sections, namely, General Administration (14), Tax collections (35), Public health and sanitation (111), Lighting (11), P.W.D. (5) and Misc. (9). Further details of these employees are as follows:—

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—One Superintendent, seven clerks and six class IV employees.

TAX COLLECTION—One revenue officer, one tax inspector, fifteen clerks, eighteen class IV employees.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION—One health officer (part-time), one veterinary doctor (part-time), two sanitary inspectors, one food inspector, two drivers and 106 class IV employees. (90 sweepers + 11 jamadars + 5 Bhishties).

LIGHTING—One lineman, two light checkers and eight class IV employees.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT—One overseer, one U.D.C., one clerk, one mistry and one class IV servant.

MISCELLANEOUS—One legal adviser (fixed allowance Rs. 800 per year), one Librarian, one impounder, three clerks and three class IV employees.

POWERS AND DUTIES—In the early days of the municipality, there were no well defined laws and byelaws, but in 1943 with the enactment of Kishangarh Municipality Act, the municipalities of Kishangarh and Madanganj were empowered to impose taxes and to forbid any activity which adversely affected the public health. The municipality looked after the sanitation, lighting, maintenance of sarais, rest houses, streets, bridges, gardens and supply of pure water to its citizens. It also registered births and deaths within its jurisdiction.

Its main duties at present are: Sanitation and public health, lighting and public utility constructions. These are described below:

SANITATION—There are two municipal tractors with two trollies which make a number of rounds daily to gather up refuse. Nearly fourteen tons of waste, thus carted away daily, is composted. There are eighteen hand carts and ten wheel barrows. In all 10 sweepers are employed to clean the streets daily. They are supplied with phenyl and powder disinfectants for use in the municipal latrines and urinals. There are two sanitary inspectors employed to supervise the whole sanitation work.

LIGHTING—The municipal committee does not own power house. Electricity is supplied in the town by Rajasthan State Electricity Board. The municipal board arranges for the street lighting and has 650 fixed bulbs and 88 oil lamps in the city with an expenditure of Rs. 2,500 per month.

CONSTRUCTION WORK—Construction and maintenance of roads in the town is under the control of the municipality. Other periodical instructions include staff quarters for municipal employees, latrines and urinals. Quarters for *harijans* are under construction and recently, the Chandra Colony for Sindhis has been constructed.

FINANCIAL POSITION—The following statement shows the income and expenditure of the municipality in the selected years during the last 57 years:

Year	Income	Expenditure
190-405	2,243	3,511
1905-06	1,451	4,233
1908-09	1,041	4,690
1909-10	1,187	2,528
1910-11	745	3,181
1912-13	796	2,243
1913-14	532	1,880
1932-33	11,215	2,379
1933-34	14,502	2,955
1934-35	16,271	2,456
1938-39	3,401	3,158
1950-51	1,20,806	1,09,405
1955-56	1,34,930	1,69,423
1960-61	2,70,930	2,90,888

Initially, the members were nominated by the *Darbar* and the *Hakim* of the *Pargana* and the medical officer acted as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. The work of the municipality was supervised by the member incharge of the municipal committees in the governing council of the state. In 1943, Kishangarh Municipalities Act came in force. On 22nd December, 1951, the Rajasthan Town Municipalities Act of 1951 repealed the old Act. Elective element was introduced in the year 1952 when it was decided to have a Board of ten members, eight elected from wards and two nominated by the Government. *Hakim hakumat* or *tahsildar* ceased to work as Chairman in 1952 when the elected body was for the first time, authorised to elect its own Chairman. In 1955¹ the number of the elected members as well as the wards was raised from eight to nine. On 17th October, 1959, the Rajasthan Municipalities Act of 1959 came into force repealing the previous Act.

PRESENT ORGANIZATION—The electorate consists of 3,248 persons. At present, the total number of the elected members is ten. The town is divided into eight wards and one member is elected from each ward except two double member wards each providing one reserved seat for the scheduled castes. The term of office of the members is three years.

The office has four sections, namely, General establishment, Tax collection, Sanitation and Lighting. The strength of these sections is as follows:—

GENERAL ESTABLISHMENT—An accountant, one store keeper and two class IV servants.

SANITATION—One *Jamadar* and 12 sweepers.

TAX-COLLECTION—Two *moharrirs* and four class IV servants.

LIGHTING—One lighting incharge and five part time light coolies.

Besides this, there is one gardener, one mistry and one class IV servant.

Thus, besides the Executive Officer, the total strength of the staff is 33.

1. Vide Notification No. F. (A) (10) L. S. G./55 dated 22nd January, 1955.

POWERS AND DUTIES—The powers and duties of the municipality were defined for the first time, in 1943 when the Kishangarh Municipalities Act was applied and the municipality was authorised to impose taxes and forbid activities affecting adversely, the health and sanitation of the residents of the town. Till the application of Rajasthan Town Municipalities Act of 1951, the main functions of the municipality were sanitation and street lighting. After that more powers and duties devolved on the municipality which included the power to impose taxes on entertainment and fairs also.

Its main functions are described below:

SANITATION—One hand cart, three *pad-gadis* and two *mela gadis* are employed to remove $\frac{1}{2}$ ton gathered up refuse from the city, daily. Thirteen sweepers are employed to clean the streets daily. They are supplied with phenyl and powder disinfectants for use in the six latrines and nine urinals of the municipality.

LIGHTING—The municipality arranges for street lighting. One light man and five part-time light coolies employed by the municipality, look after one hundred fifty five oil-lamps in various parts of the town.

CONSTRUCTION—Construction and maintenance of roads in the town, is under the control of the municipality.

FINANCIAL POSITION—The following statement shows the income and expenditure of the municipality in the selected periods of the last 57 years:

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1904-05	876	848
1905-06	1,108	1,368
1910-11	883	1,156
1913-14	1,328	625
1932-33	933	933
1938-39	132	199
1960-61	54,021	47,943

and expenditure of the Cantonment Board in selected periods over the past 78 years:—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1883-84	38,654	36,784
1890-91	25,858	26,257
1899-1900	33,185	32,389
1910-11	61,962	64,573
1920-21	89,952	90,221
1930-31	1,03,554	1,08,508
1939-40	99,801	1,01,165
1940-41	81,309	88,524
1950-51	2,49,402	2,44,652
1955-56	3,57,815	3,62,635
1960-61	5,63,454	5,04,739

THE AJMER DISTRICT BOARD—The Ajmer Rural Boards Regulation was passed in 1886 A.D. with the object of establishing local and District Boards in Ajmer-Merwara. A District Board for Ajmer Merwara and two local Boards for Ajmer and Merwara separately, were established.

The Ajmer Rural Regulation, 1886 gave extensive powers to the Chief Commissioner. The participation of the rural people in the administration, was insignificant as the members elected by them constituted a minority in the board.

The local Boards were, however, abolished from July 1, 1892. The exact date of establishment of the Ajmer-Merwara District Board is 1st December, 1888. Under notification No. 379-586-11 of 20th April, 1892, the Board consisted of 40 members of which 16 were elected and 9 nominated and 15 ex-officio members coming from among the *Tazi-mi-Istimrardar*. The District Magistrate of Ajmer acted as the Chairman of the Board.

The administration of the District Board had been regulated by the Ajmer-Merwara Rural Board's Regulation VI of 1886 as subsequently amended from time to time and rules made there under, till the formation of Zila Parishad in October, 1959.

Under section 22 (i) of the above mentioned regulation, the Chief Commissioner made from time to time, amendments for the effective administration of the Board. In 1927-28, the membership was increased from 41 to 43 by increasing the number of ex-officio members from 16 to 18. Some changes in regulations were made in 1932 also. In 1934, the election procedure was changed and the electorate was restricted by imposing property and status qualifications. An amendment made in the year 1935-36 increased the membership from 43 to 57 the emerging composition of membership being 17 ex-officio, 17 nominated and 23 elected. The Chief Commissioner¹ was empowered to fill by nomination, any of the seats which could not be filled up by election. In the year 1937-38, the number of nominated members was reduced from 17 to 15, and the number of elected persons increased from 23 to 25. On 15th² September, 1938, the total membership was reduced to 51, including the Commissioner of Ajmer who was an ex-officio member acting as a permanent Chairman of the Board. The composition of the Board now was: 16 Tazimi Istimrardars as Ex-officio members, 14 nominated and 20 elected members. In 1947-48, the total number of members remained 54, but the composition changed. There were 17 ex-officio and 34 nominated members. The total number was reduced to 50 in the year 1949. An important amendment³ was made in 1951, dividing the area under the board into 48 constituencies. This number was assigned to the various sub-divisions as under: Ajmer 18, Beawar 14 and Kekri 16, and in each sub-division, two seats were reserved for the Scheduled castes. Franchise was to be universal in conformity with the Representation of the people Act 1950 (XLII of 1950). In the year 1953, an amendment was made in the regulation making some changes in the charges and management of Dak-Bungalows. The further notable amendment⁴ was made in May 1956 whereby rules governing the term of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman were clearly defined.

By another amendment⁵ in 1956 the Chief Commissioner appointed 44 persons to the District Board.

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1. His Notification No. 845/57-CC/32 dated 20th June.
 2. Vide C.C. Notification No. 346 C/516-A/37-15th September.
 3. Vide Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 4/1/50-L. S. G. dated 19th June, 1951.
 4. Vide Government of Ajmer-Local Self Government Notification No. S. R. O. 1916 in 1956 (1st May).
 5. In supersession of the Chief Commissioner's Notification No. 3/4/49 L. S. G. II dated the 24th February, 1951 the Chief Commissioner vide his notification No. 1/8/55-L. S. G. II S. R. O. 1294 dated 4th June, 1956.

year of 1944-45. In the succeeding year (1945-46), it was again reduced to Rs. 6,000 and it remained at this level up to 1948-49. In the year 1949-50 it was further reduced to 5,775¹.

The income from these major sources was supplemented by many minor items mentioned in the detailed income and expenditure statement of 1957-58.

The following statement shows the income and expenditure of the District Board in selected periods over the past 68 years.

*Year	Income	Expenditure (in Rupees)
1890-91	32,313	29,020
1900-01	26,320	25,600
1910 11	54,601	51,927
1920-21	85,567	78,004
1930-31	2,29,263	2,37,072
1939-40	1,09,689	1,10,708
1950-51	2,66,280	1,11,508
1955-56	1,21,469	1,01,530
1957-58	2,63,386	2,44,343

Income and Expenditure Statement (1957-58)

Head	Income
INCOME	
1. District Fund Cess	— 1,21,127
2. Receipt under Cattle Trespass Act	— 32,659
3. Medical	—
4. Cattle fairs	
(i) Pushkar	— 68,235
(ii) Lamana	— 23,463
(iii) Tilonia	— 1,850

1. These above figures of grant in aid have been taken from the Ajmer Board Records.

* From 1890-91 to 1939-40 the source is annual Admn. reports of Ajmer-Merwara, and the rest figures have been taken from the records of the District Board.

Head		Amount
(iv) Bhinai		—
(v) Bijamagar (Bari)	—	1,660
5. Government Grant for General purpose	—	5,400
6. Nazul Land	—	48
7. Sale proceeds of dry trees and grass	—	404
8. Miscellaneous	—	551
9. Dilwara Birs	—	1,544
10. Staging Bungalows fees.	—	4,378
11. Hire of Steam Road Roller	—	1,237
12. P.W.D. Miscellaneous	—	830
TOTAL RECEIPTS		2,63,386

EXPENDITURE

1. Office Establishment		
(i) Pay of Establishment	—	20,274
(ii) Travelling Allowance	—	441
(iii) Contingency (Stationery) etc.	—	4,745
2. Provident Fund Contribution	—	1,300
3. Cattle Pound Charges		
(i) Establishment	—	4,548
(ii) Contingencies	—	1,388
(iii) Refund under Cattle Trees Pass Act	—	982
(iv) Refund of 50 per cent share of Pushkar M.C. for Pushkar cattle pound income	—	749
4. Education		
(i) Contribution to Govt. Primary Education	—	38,513
(ii) Scholarships	—	10,448
5. Public Exhibition and Fairs		
(i) (a) Lamana	—	2,112
(b) Tilonia	—	—
(c) Bijainagar (Bari)	—	400
(ii) Plantation of Trees on Pushkar Fair Ground		671
6. Purchase of Tents etc.	—	3,390

Head	Amount
7. Printing charges	156
8. Antibiotic Treatment charges	1,075
9. Aid to Ayurvedic Dispensary	2,901
10. Contribution	
(i) To Society for preventing of cruelty to animals	120
(ii) To Bharat Scout	101
(iii) Donation for Rally to Distt. S.S. & Airman's Board	200
11. T.A. to district Board Members	2,120
12. Forest Guard Pay and Pension	1,038
13. Federation of All India Local Authority	50
14. Plantation of Trees in Dak Bungalow & purchase of Ghamla	104
15. Plantation and Preservation of trees on Distt. Board Roads	1,132
16. Aid to T.B. Patients of Rural area	377
17. Independence Day	219
18. Van Mahotsava	48
19. Construction of Sarais	3,500
20. Repairs to Buildings	
(a) Cattle Pounds	120
(b) Dak Bungalows	753
21. Communication	
(a) Renewals of Miles and Furlongs	12,699
(b) Repairs of Miles and Furlongs	35,267
22. Tools and Plans	
(a) Repairs and Renewals	63
23. Purchase of National Saving Certificate	40,000
24. Construction and equipment of office building	9,711
25. Steam Road Roller	
(a) Repairs	862
(b) Establishment	1,023
(c) Inspection of Roller	40
26. Public Works Establishment	
(a) Establishment charges	4,881
(b) Travelling allowance	167

Head	Amount
27. Maintenance of Dak Bungalows	
(a) Establishment	2,930
(b) Repairs and renewals of furniture	1,819
(c) Water Tax, Conservancy Tax and Electric charge	854
28. Miscellaneous P.W.D.	58
29. Jeep Car Expenses	5,557
30. 12 per cent share of Lamana cattle fair income	150
31. Cess Realisation	
(a) Establishment	4,219
(b) Travelling Allowance	262
(c) Contingencies	307
32. Ayurvedic Department	
(a) Establishment	9,823
(b) Travelling Allowance	160
(c) Supply of Medicines	6,830
(d) Contingencies	2,686
Total expenditure chargeable to income	2,44,343

With the coming into force of the Rajasthan Panchayat Samiti and Zila Parishad Act, 1959, which introduced the scheme of the democratic decentralisation in the State, the Ajmer District Board was abolished. All the assets vesting in the Board and all the liabilities subsisting against it, developed on the State Government on the day of 2nd October, 1959 when the aforesaid Act came into force. The functions of the Board have thereafter been assigned to the Panchayat Samitis and various Government departments¹.

IMPROVEMENT TRUST

Till the formation of Urban Improvement Board for Ajmer city, development of the town was one of the functions of the Municipal Council. There was no separate agency to undertake the systematic planning of the town and to ensure that haphazard growth did not take place. The Urban Improvement Board was constituted under the Rajasthan Urban Improvement Act, 1959. On 1st November, 1960

1. Section 70 of Rajasthan Panchayat Samiti & Zila Parishad, Act 1959.

however, the Board was substituted by the Trust and it now came to be known as Urban Improvement Trust, Ajmer. The Collector was the Chairman of the Trust with a number of other official and non-official members on it. The City Magistrate acted as Secretary of the Trust. A loan of Rs. 50,000 had been sanctioned by the State Government for meeting the initial expenses of the Trust.

The functions of the Trust are regulated under the Rajasthan Urban Improvement Act, 1959. Important of these are to prepare schemes for improvement of the city of Ajmer by—

1. undertaking schemes for planned development of the city;
2. widening roads and providing foot-paths;
3. providing for more and better building colonies and checking illegal construction in the city; and
4. providing for better and modern markets in various parts of the city.

The area of the Trust has been made co-terminus with that of the Municipal Council. The Improvement Trust at Ajmer is of recent origin. They have, however, during the short period, introduced certain improvements in the various parts of the city which had been growing up in a haphazard manner for a long time. Similarly, efforts have been made to develop the areas lying open. A very large number of cabins on foot-paths had sprung up on the main roads of the city causing great congestion and obstruction to the traffic and pedestrians. These have sprung up due to influx of displaced persons in the wake of the partition of the country. These cabins have now been removed and pucca shops have been constructed on Kutchery Road, Imperial Road, Nasirabad Road and Beawar Road. They have also prepared a number of marketing schemes such as Kutchery Road, Parao and Khailand marketing scheme. Housing schemes are also being finalised which are a sort of small townships with all modern amenities. These are Lohagal Road, Naka Madar, Anasagar and Circular Road Housing Schemes. Provision for plots for persons of different income groups with provision for commercial plots, site for schools, parks and other public institutions exists there. They have in view a number of other housing schemes also.

The main source of income of the Trust is premium money received from leasing out of Nazul lands in the various schemes framed by it. The Government has not so far given any grant-in aid to the Trust. The main items of expenditure of the Trust are surveying and

them; development of co-operation and the establishment of improved seed and implements, stores; relief against famine; assisting agriculturists in obtaining Government loans; extension of the *abadi*; promotion of goodwill and social harmony in the village, public radio set and gramophone and other activities for the well-being of the Community.

Under this act, the Panchayat was given the control over all public streets and waterways situated within its jurisdiction and could construct new bridges or culverts as also divert or discontinue or close any public street, culvert or bridge, deepen or otherwise improve waterways, etc. The Act authorised the Panchayat to impose compulsory service upon persons resident in its territorial jurisdiction to provide labour for public purposes on works of public utility. Persons who refused to comply could be punished with fine which could extend to Rs. 50. The Panchayat could also inquire into cases of misconduct within its area, brought to its notice against Government servants and being satisfied about a *prima facie* case, could report it to superior officers who then had to enquire into the charge, take suitable action and inform the Panchayat of the steps taken.

A Panchayat could in respect of any area within its jurisdiction, enter into a contract with the State Government to collect any dues or taxes, including land revenue payable to the Government, on being allowed by the State Government such collection charges as may be prescribed.

A Panchayat could appoint from among its members sub-committees for the discharge of its various administrative functions.

Sources of Revenue

It was provided by Ajmer Panchayat Act of 1954 that every Panchayat was to have a fund which would be utilised by the Panchayat for meeting expenses in connection with its duties under the Act. The following were to be credited to the Panchayat Fund: the proceeds of any taxes imposed under the Act; all sums ordered by a court to be placed to the credit of the Panchayat Fund; the sale proceeds of all dust, dirt or dung or refuse including dead bodies of animals collected by the Panchayat; such portions of the rent or other proceeds of Nazool property as the State Government may direct to be placed to the credit of the Panchayat fund; sums contributed to the Panchayat Fund by any local authority; all sums received by way of loan or gift; all sums as may be allotted to the Panchayat fund by any special or general order of the State Government.

The Act required the State Government to pay to every Panchayat in each financial year, a sum equal to 15 per cent of land revenue realised by it in respect of that Panchayat area. Further, the State Government was authorised to impose and realise a suitable surcharge on land revenue realised from within a Panchayat area, and the proceeds of such surcharges were to be paid to the Panchayat of that area.

The *Gram Sabhas* (Panchayat) could impose a tax on lands; a tax on trades, calling or professions; fees on the sale of goods in a market within the jurisdiction of a Panchayat, and fees on the sale of animals in the village market; a fee on transfer of immovable property; a tax on industries; a fee on solemnisation of marriage and other entertainments at such rates as may be prescribed; a latrine or conservancy tax; fees for the use of sarais, *Dharamshalas*, etc. maintained by the Panchayat; a water-rate where water was supplied by the Panchayat; a lighting rate where the lighting of public streets was undertaken by the Panchayats; a drainage fee, a pilgrim tax; a tax on firewood and cattle etc.

The Panchayats could with the consent of the persons on whom any tax, toll or fee was to be charged, commute the payment into a contribution of labour not exceeding thirty labour days in a year. Exemption from taxes could also be granted by them.

Judicial Aspect

The Act provided that the *Gram Sabhas* may be divided into circles and a Nyaya Panchayat established for each circle. The Panches are selected from the members of *Gram Sabha* by the District Magistrate. The *Sarpanch* is also appointed by the District Magistrate. Each *Gram Sabha* sends five members. The tenure of office of a Nyaya Panchayat is three years.

Nyaya Panchayats can try certain civil and criminal cases. Civil suits for money dues on contract, for recovery of moveable property, claiming compensation for wrongfully taking or injuring public property, for causing damage under the Cattle Trespass Act, may be tried by Nyaya Panchayats.

Criminal cases under sections 160, 174, 178, 179, 289, 190, 379, 380, 381, 411, 426, 430, 448, etc. of the IPC can be tried. The Nyaya Panchayats can impose a maximum fine of Rs. 50. No imprisonment can be awarded. All contraventions of the provisions of the Act, are punishable by fines. Expenditure on the Nyaya Panchayats is charged to

the Gram Fund. No legal practitioner can appear in Panchayat courts. The Panchayats cannot revise or alter their judgement once it is passed. All suits have to be instituted before the Sarpanch. The Sarpanch can ask any person to execute a bond, if he apprehends breach of peace on his part. There is a provision for awarding compensation to the accused if he is wrongfully implicated in a case. Appeals against the judgement of the Panchayat, can be made to the prescribed authority.

After the merger of the Ajmer State into Rajasthan, the Ajmer State Panchayat Act, 1954 was repealed and the Rajasthan Panchayat Act, 1953 was made applicable to the whole district. The organisation of the panchayats and their powers and functions were thereafter regulated under the Rajasthan Act¹.

Democratic Decentralization

The Rajasthan Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishad Act was passed by the State Vidhan Sabha on September 2, 1959 and received assent to the Governor seven days later. As a consequence, a three-tier system of local self government was introduced from October 2, 1959. The old village panchayats continued to exist when the new scheme was introduced though the tahsil panchayats were abolished in 1959. In December 1960, the panchayat set up was completely re-organised so that there are now 276 panchayats grouped into eight panchayat samitis. The account that follows, will give some account of these Panchayat Samitis:

PANCHAYAT SAMITI, KEKRI—It consists of the following 31 Gram Panchayats:

1. Jooniya 2. Lasariya 3. Deogaon 4. Baghera 5. Karoj 6. Meoda Kalan 7. Salari 8. Molkiya 9. Kalera 10. Dhoondhari 11. Para 12. Gulgaon 13. Bharai 14. Sarsari 15. Pranihera 16. Bheemrawas 17. Kadera 18. Khawas 19. Aloli 20. Sadara 21. Mehroon Kalan 22. Peeplaj 23. Gordan 24. Kushayta 25. Cheetiawas 26. Sawar 27. Tankyas (Tankawas) 28. Ghatiyali 29. Bajta 30. Chosla 31. Khejri.

The total strength of 38 members of the Panchayat Samiti, Kekri is composed of 31 Sarpanchas, four co-opted members (two each from scheduled castes and women of the area) and three specialists (from among persons having experience of administration and one from co-operatives). The present strength is 37 as against the sanctioned strength of 39. The present Pradhan of the Panchayat Samiti is Shri Jai Singh.

1. Section 93 (1) of the Rajasthan Panchayats Act, 1953.

The income of the Samiti is also chiefly derived from various taxes. The Government aid during 1960-61 to the Samiti, was Rs. 13,81,045. The people's participation in the form of labour, cash and kind amounted to Rs. 68,000. The income of the Panchayat Samiti during the year 1960-61 came to Rs. 13,000.

After spending a sum of Rs. 12,76,000 on various schemes, the Samiti had a balance of Rs. 3,29,000 at the close of the year.

The potential for development in the samiti was in the fields of irrigation and sheep breeding.

2. PANCHAYAT SAMITI BHINAI—The following 35 Gram Panchayats constitute the Panchayat Samiti:—

1. Tantoti 2. Sarana 3. Jotayan 4. Shoklya 5. Goyla 6. Shergarh
7. Barol 8. Bhagwanpura 9. Dabrela 10. Kaibaniya 11. Santolee 12. Kumbariya 13. Dhantol 14. Rammalia 15. Ekalsingha 16. Sobri 17. Bandanwara 18. Singewal 19. Boobkiya 20. Chhachundra 21. Bhinai 22. Karanti 23. Rata Kot 24. Padannga 25. Badli 26. Lamgara 27. Chanpaneri 28. Deoliya Kalan 29. Gudha Khurd 30. Kairot 31. Parliya 32. Bargaon 33. Nagola 34. Kanai Kalan 35. Nandsi.

There are 42 members in the Panchayat Samiti, 35 sarpanchas, four co-opted members (two each from scheduled classes and women) and three specialists (two from among persons having experience of administration and one from cooperatives). The members are grouped into 7 standing committees responsible for planning and formulation of policies in their own allotted sphere of activity. The total sanctioned and present strength of this block staff is 35 and 25, with Shri Gajendra Kumar as Pradhan.

So far as the financial resources of the Panchayat Samiti are concerned, these, besides government grant on various counts which totalled to Rs. 14,61,058, were chiefly derived from various taxes. The people's participation in the form of *shramdan*, cash and kind contributions also constituted a material portion of the Panchayat Samiti's income. The actual income of the Panchayat Samiti during the year 1960-61 was comparatively higher than that of other Panchayat Samitis save the Pisangan Panchayat Samiti whose income was at par with it. It was Rs. 38,000. The people's participation was estimated at Rs. 57,000.

A sum of Rs. 17,89,000 was spent on various development schemes of the Samiti, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,01,000 at the close of the year.

The tempo of development activities continued to be steady and the potential of the Block was confined to irrigation only.

3. PANCHAYAT SAMITI, ARAIN—It consists of the following 30 Gram Panchayats:—

1. Dasook 2. Dadiya 3. Deopuri 4. Katsura 5. Lamba 6. Mandawariya 7. Sandolya 8. Akoriya 9. Jhirota 10. Gothiyana 11. Sironj 12. Bhambholao 13. Arain 14. Bhogadeet 15. Kalanada 16. Kaseer 17. Borara 18. Fatehgarh 19. Manoharpura 20. Sayar 21. Hingoniyan 22. Harpura 23. Lallai 24. Ijgara 25. Kheeriyar 26. Bhagwanpura 27. Rampali 28. Sapla 29. Soopan 30. Bidla.

There are following 37 members in the Panchayat Samiti: 30 sarpanchas, four co-opted members (two each from scheduled classes and women of the area) and three specialist (two from among persons having experience of administration and one from cooperatives). Being a shadow block full compliment of the staff is yet to be provided.

The income of the Panchayat Samiti besides government aid which amounted to Rs. 7,24,834, was limited to taxes only. The estimated income from taxes during the year 1960-61 was Rs. 25,000 but the actual income was Rs. 15,000 only. Though people's participation was not significant yet it formed a major portion of the income of the Panchayat Samiti. It was Rs. 26,000. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 5,00,000. The potential for the development was limited to irrigation only.

4. PANCHAYAT SAMITI, PISANGAN—The following 45 Gram Panchayats constitute the Panchayat Samiti:—

1. Bhanwata 2. Budhwara 3. Dodiya 4. Dantra 5. Kalesara 6. Nagelao 7. Gola 8. Picholiyan 9. Bhagwanpura 10. Nand 11. Rampura Dabla 12. Bhadsuri 13. Pagaran 14. Peesangan 15. Mayapur 16. Niwaran 17. Bidak Chiyawas 18. Kesharpura 19. Tabiji 20. Doomara 21. Bhawani Khara 22. Nandla 23. Derathoo 24. Jharwasa 25. Bhatyani 26. Karnos. 27. Deopura 28. Khori 29. Kandel 30. Tilora 31. Baghsuri 32. Ganahera 33. Govindgarh 34. Jethana 35. Sardhana 36. Makreda 37. Samalpur 38. Dauri 39. Leeri 40. Lamana 41. Hatoondi 42. Rajosi 43. Rajgarh 44. Bithoor 45. Mangaliyawas.

There are following 51 members in the Panchayat Samiti: 45 sarpanchas, 3 co-opted members (two from women and one from schedu-

led castes), and three specialists (two from among persons having experience of administration and one from cooperatives). This strength of 51 members is distributed among its six standing committees, who are responsible for planning and formulation of policies in their own allocated sphere of activity. The present Pradhan is Shri Shanti Prasad. The total sanctioned and the present strength of the block staff is 37 and 36 respectively.

The income of the Panchayat Samiti was mainly derived from taxes. The people's participation in the form of labour, cash and kind was the biggest of all Panchayat Samitis in the district. It was as much as Rs. 1,42,000 and thus formed a major constituent of the finances of the Samiti. The actual income of the Samiti was Rs. 38,000 against the estimated income of Rs. 41,000. The Government grant to the Samiti during 1960-61, was Rs. 17,64,188.

The expenditure on various development schemes for the year amounted to Rs. 21,33,000 leaving a balance of Rs. 1,56,000 in the hands of the Panchayat Samiti at the close of the year.

5. PANCHAYAT SAMITI, SRINAGAR—It consists of the following 38 Gram Panchayats:—

1. Ramesar 2. Maosiya 3. Sampreda 4. Tilana 5. Chandsen 6. Dhal 7. Sanod 8. Tihari 9. Kanpura 10. Laharwara 11. Dilwara 12. Lavera 13. Danta 14. Beer 15. Kana Kheri 16. Pharkiya 17. Sreenagar 18. Makhoopura 19. Parbatpura 20. Palran 21. Badliya 22. Nareli 23. Rasoolpura 24. Kayar 25. Budhol 26. Gagwana 27. Gegal 28. Utra 29. Ramner Dhan 30. Bubani 31. Babecha 32. Ararka 33. Narwar 34. Chachiyawas 35. Makrawali 36. Chorsiyawas 37. Hathi Khera 38. Ajesar.

There are following 44 members in the panchayat samiti: 37 sarpanchas, four co-opted members (two each from amongst scheduled castes and women population of the area), and finally three specialists (two from among persons having experience of administration and one from co-operatives). The total sanctioned and present strength of the block is 33 and 23. Shri Shankar Singh is the present Pradhan.

In this case also, the income of Panchayat Samiti was limited to taxes only. The government aid in the year 1960-61 was Rs. 21,28,616. The people's participation ranked second to that in the Pisangan Panchayat Samiti. It was Rs. 1,27,000. The participation was in the form of Shramdan, kind and cash contributions. The estimated income

women population of the area) and three specialists (two selected from having experience in administrative matters and one from members of the cooperative societies). This total strength of 43 members is distributed among its 5 standing committees, who are responsible within the overall direction of the Samiti, for planning and formulation of policies in their own allocated sphere of activity. The total sanctioned and present strength of the block is 37 and 25. Shri Chiman Singh is working as Pradhan at present.

The income of the Panchayat Samiti besides the government aid of Rs. 18,14,916 was derived from the taxes. The people's participation amounted to Rs. 1,19,000. The actual income of the Samiti during the year 1960-61 was Rs. 5,000.

The expenditure on various development schemes during the year 1960-61 amounted to Rs. 8,71,000. A balance of Rs. 5,41,000 was left at the close of the year. Besides irrigation, cottage industries is also an important potential for development.

NYAYA PANCHAYATS—With the extension of the Rajasthan Panchayat Act, 1953, to the whole of Ajmer district, Nyaya Panchayats were constituted in the district, in accordance with chapter IV of the said Act. Judicial powers have now been taken away from the panchayats so that they may concentrate on development work. However, for each group of five to seven panchayats separate nyaya (judicial) panchayats have been set up. These nyaya panchayats are empowered to try certain minor criminal offences (specified in a schedule attached to the Act) and to impose fines not exceeding Rs. 50. In the event of non-payment, the matter is brought to the notice of the S.D.M. who makes recovery as in the case of fines imposed by himself. In civil cases, those panchayats have jurisdiction for the trial of certain suits not exceeding Rs. 250 in value. In such cases, if there is difficulty in executing a decree, a report is sent to the munsif or Civil Judge having jurisdiction who executes them as those passed by his own court.

Steps were taken for the formation of 52 nyaya panchayats in this district in December 1960 and the first elections were completed in January 1961. The set up is as follows:—

Nyaya Panchayat

Panchayat Circles covered

KEKRI PANCHAYAT SAMITI

1. Meharoon Kalan

1. Meharoon Kalan 2. Gordan
3. Peeplaj 4. Gulgaon 5. Sadara
6. Aloli

Nyaya Panchayat	Panchayat Circles covered
2. Para	1. Para 2. Molkiya 3. Kalera K.G. 4. Dhoondhari 5. Tankawas.
3. Sawar	1. Sawar 2. Chatiyali 3. Bajeta 4. Chosla 5. Khejri 6. Cheetiya-was 7. Kushayta.
4. Baghera	1. Baghera 2. Jooniya 3. Deogaon 4. Lasariya 5. Kanoj 6. Meoda Kalan 7. Salari.
5. Khawas	1. Khawas 2. Pranhera 3. Bharai 4. Saroari 5. Kadera 6. Bheemrawasa.

BHINAI SAMITI

1. Bhinai	1. Bhinai 2. Bandanwara 3. Chhachundra 4. Sobri 5. Dhantol.
2. Tantoti	1. Tantoti 2. Sarana 3. Kaibaniya 4. Kumbhariya 5. Shoklya.
3. Goyla	1. Goyla 2. Bhagwanpura 3. Dabrela 4. Shergarh 5. Barol.
4. Bargaon	1. Bargaon 2. Jotayan 3. Rammaliya 4. Kanai Kalan 5. Parliya
5. Chanpaneri	1. Chanpaneri 2. Nandsi 3. Nagola 4. Boobkiya 5. Parliya.
6. Deoliya Kalan	1. Deoliya Kalan 2. Kairot 3. Badli 4. Lamgara 5. Gudha Khurd.
7. Singawal	1. Singawal 2. Karanti 3. Padanga 4. Ekakingha 5. Rata Kot.

ARAIN SAMITI

1. Rampali	1. Rampali 2. Soopan 3. Sapla 4. Bhagwanpura 5. Ijagra.
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Nyaya Panchayat	Panchayat Circles covered
2. Fatehgarh	1. Fatehgarh 2. Sayar 3. Hingon- niyan 4. Kheeriyā 5. Lallai.
3. Akoriya	1. Akoriya 2. Jhirota 3. Dasook 4. Gothiyana 5. Mandwariya.
4. Bara	1. Bara 2. Manoharpura 3. Har- pura 4. Bidla 5. Kaseer.
5. Arain	1. Arain 2. Sandolya 3. Sironj 4. Bhogadeet 5. Bhambholao.
6. Dadiya	1. Dadiya 2. Katsura 3. Lamba 4. Deopuri, 5. Kalanada.

PISANGAN SAMITI

1. Pisangan	1. Pisangan 2. Karnos 3. Bhad- suri 4. Pagaran 5. Kalesara.
2. Jethana	1. Jethana 2. Nagelao 3. Budh- warai 4. Dantra 5. Dodiya 6. Bhanwata 7. Gola.
3. Govindgarh	1. Govindgarh 2. Rampura Dab- la 3. Picholiyan 4. Bhagwanpura 5. Nand.
4. Deopura	1. Deopura 2. Kandel 3. Khari 4. Ganahera 5. Tilora.
5. Tabiji	1. Tabiji 2. Doomara 3. Somal- pur 4. Daurai 5. Hatoondi 6. Ra- josi.
6. Jharwasa	1. Jharwasa 2. Nandla 3. Bhad- suri. 4. Niyaran 5. Bhatyani 6. Derathoo.
7. Mangaliyawas	1. Mangaliyawas 2. Bidakchiya- was 3. Leeri 4. Lamana 5. Mak- randa.

Nyaya Panchayat	Panchayat Circles covered
8. Rajgarh	1. Rajgarh 2. Sardhana 3. Kesharpura 4. Mayapur 5. Bithoor 6. Bhawani Khera.

SREENAGAR SAMITI

1. Ararka	1. Ararka 2. Babaecha 3. Narwar 4. Utra 5. Ramner Dhani.
2. Gagwana	1. Gagwana 2. Nareli 3. Rasool-pura 4. Makhoopura 5. Badliya.
3. Chorsiyawas	1. Chorsiyawas 2. Hathi Khera 3. Ajesar 4. Makarwali 5. Chachiyawas.
4. Sreenagar	1. Sreenagar 2. Beer 3. Danta 4. Lavera 5. Pharkiya 6. Kana Kheri.
5. Sanod	1. Sanod 2. Dhal 3. Dilwara 4. Tilana 5. Loharwara.
6. Ramesar	1. Ramesar 2. Maosiya 3. Samproda 4. Tihari 5. Kanpura.
7. Makhoopura	

KISHANGARH SAMITI

1. Bhadoon	1. Bhadoon 2. Nasel 3. Sinodiya 4. Paner 5. Jhajanta.
2. Roopnagar	1. Roopnagar 2. Paner 3. Nawa 4. Thal 5. Sursara.
3. Karkedi	1. Karkedi 2. Amarpura 3. Salemabad 4. Pinglok 5. Kuchcel.
4. Harmada	1. Harmada 2. Kothri 3. Ralawata 4. Khatoli 5. Buharoo.

Nyaya Panchayat	Panchayat Circles covered
5. Barna	1. Barna 2. Silora 3. Tikawada 4. Sargaon 5. Deedwana.
6. Patān	1. Patan 2. Tiloniya 3. Naloo 4. Bandar Secndri 5. Sanvatsar.

MASUDA SAMITI

1. Vijainagar	1. Vijainagar 2. Bari 3. Baral 4. Sathana 5. Sikhrani 6. Lodiya.
2. Hanootiya	1. Hanootiya 2. Ramgarh 3. Kaniya 4. Dewas 5. Jaliya.
3. Loolwa	1. Loolwa 2. Jeewana 3. Jhak 4. Andhi Deori 5. Dhala Danta.
4. Kharwa	1. Kharwa 2. Kana Khera 3. Narajpura 4. Mayna 5. Kirap.
5. Masuda	1. Masuda 2. Maylan 3. Shyamgarh 4. Jamolao 5. Sitawariya.
6. Shergarh	1. Shergarh 2. Begliawas 3. Deomali 4. Nandwara 5. Daulatpura.

JAWAJA SAMITI

1. Barakhan	1. Barakhan 2. Todgarh 3. Asan 4. Ramanhera 5. Khera Kalan 6. Banjari.
2. Lotiyana	1. Lotiyana 2. Jaragarh 3. Rawatmal 4. Badkochara 5. Surajpura.
3. Jawaja	1. Jawaja 2. Naikalan 3. Kabra 4. Kotra 5. Dewatan.
4. Rajiawas	1. Rajiawas 2. Surrian 3. Sarwina 4. Attitmand 5. Kishanpura.
5. Jalia	1. Jalia 2. Malpura 3. Durgawas 4. Gohana 5. Narbadkhera.

Nyaya Panchayat	Panchayat Circles covered
6. Nayanagar	1. Nayanagar 2. Balad 3. Delwara 4. Suhawa 5. Fatehpura.
7. Beawar Khas	1. Beawar Khas 2. Sedria 3. Sarmaliyan 4. Roopanagar 5. Noon-drimendratan.

Community Project Blocks

The first development block was set up in the district in October 1952 at Pisangan. More blocks were opened in the succeeding year at following places:—Masuda in October 1953, Kekri and Jawaja in April 1955, Sirinagar in April 1956, Kishangarh in October 1956, Bhinai in May 1957 and lastly, in Arain a shadow block on 2nd October 1959. The Arain shadow block is in the pre-extension stage and the Bhinai and Kishangarh are in first stage, and the rest of the blocks are in 2nd stage. The total population of the eight blocks is nearly 5,18,000, total area 3,096 sq. miles (4,982.53 km.) and the total number of villages covered is 967. The block wise distribution is as follows:—Kekri, 70,000 persons, 353 sq. miles, and 92 villages, Bhinai 63,000 persons, 469 sq. miles, and 114 villages, Arain, 50,000 persons, 464 sq. miles and 125 villages, Pisangan, 92,000 persons, 452 sq. miles and 105 villages, Srinagar, 68,000 persons, 353 sq. miles and 101 villages, Kishangarh, 55,000 persons, 429 sq. miles and 107 villages, Masuda, 64,000 persons, 345 sq. miles and 132 villages, Jawaja, 56,000 persons, 224 sq. miles and 191 villages. A three tier system of Panchayat administration has been set up, the Panchayats at the local level, the panchayat samitis at the block level and to co-ordinate the developmental works of the panchayat samitis, the Zila Parishad was established at the district level.

The names of the railway stations nearest to the Panchayat Samiti headquarters are given below:

Panchayat Samiti	Railway Station
1. Pisangan	Mangaliawas
2. Masuda	Beawar
3. Jawaja	Beawar
4. Kekri	Outagency Kekri, Nasirabad
5. Srinagar	Ajmer
6. Kishangarh (H.Q. Silora)	Kishangarh
7. Bhinai	Bandanwara
8. Arain	Kishangarh

Financial position and public participation in the following Panchayat Samitis in the year 1960-61

	(Rs. in 1,000)							
	Kekri	Bhina	Arain	Pisangan	Srinagar	Kishangarh	Masuda	Jawaja
1. (a) Actual income	13	38	15	38	11	5	7	5
(b) People's participation	68	57	25	142	127	25	44	119
(c) Estimated income								
from taxes	N. A.	N. A.	25	41	23	N. A.	8	N. A.
2. (a) Expenditure	1,276	1,789	586	2,133	2,296	1,332	884	871
(b) Balance on 1.4.1961	329	102	326	156	96	64	69	541
3. General								
(a) Tempo of the work	Steady	Steady	Increasing	Increasing	Steady	Steady	Steady	Steady
(b) Potential of the block	Irrig.	Irrig.	Irrig.	Irrig.	Irrig.	Irrig.	Irrig.	Irrig.
(2) Sheep breeding farm					(2) Agri-culture production		(2) Small cottage industries	

Statement giving the present and sanctioned strength of the staff in the Panchayat Samitis of Ajmer District

	Keki		Bhim		Arain		Pisangan		Srinagar		Kushanagar		Masuda		Jawanja	
	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.	SS. P.S.
1. Block Development Officer	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2. Gram Sevak	10	8	10	10	Shadow		12	12	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
3. Gram Sevika	2	2	2	1	Block		2	2	2	2	1	—	2	1	2	1
4. Extension Officer	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5. Extension Officer																
Animal	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6. Veterinary Doctor	1	1	—	—			1	1	1	—	1	—	2	2	2	—
7. Extension Officer																
Co-operative	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	—	1	—	2	2	2	—
8. Extension Officer																
Industries	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
9. Extension Officer																
P. E. O.	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	1	—

Zila Parishad

The Ajmer Zila Parishad was constituted on 2nd October, 1959 under the scheme of democratic decentralization in Rajasthan. At the same time the Ajmer district board ceased to exist and most of its functions were taken up by the present Zila Parishad. Following are the members of the Zila Parishad:—

(a) Pradhans

1. Shri Shanti Prasad Joshi, Pradhan, Panchayat Samiti, Pisangan.
2. Shri Santi Prasad Godha, Pradhan, Panchayat Samiti, Silora.
3. Shri Gajendra Kumar Jain, Pradhan, Panchayat Samiti, Bhinai.
4. Shri Ghisa Lal Choudhary, Pradhan, Panchayat Samiti, Masuda.
5. Shri Chimam Singh Bhati, Pradhan, Panchayat Samiti, Jawaja.
6. Shri Shankar Singh Rawat, Pradhan, Panchayat Samiti, Srinagar.
7. Shri Jai Singh, Pradhan, Panchayat Samiti, Kekri.

Due to election petition the Collectors, Ajmer has been authorised to work as Pradhan in Panchayat Samiti, Arain.

(b) M.L.As. Nine

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Shri Arjun Dass, Ajmer City West | Independent |
| 2. Shri Mahendra Singh, Ajmer City East | Independent |
| 3. Shri Brij Mohan Lal, Beawar | Congress |
| 4. Shri Hari Bhau Upadhyaya, Kekri | Congress |
| 5. Shri Hazari Lal Bakelia, Kekri | Congress |
| 6. Shri Jawala Prasad, Nasirabad | Congress |
| 7. Shri Rao Narayan Singh, Masuda | Congress |
| 8. Shri Purshotam Lal, Kishangarh | Congress |
| 9. Smt. Prabha Mishra, Pushkar | Congress |

(c) M.Ps. Three**Lok Sabha**

1. Shri Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava, Ajmer Constituency Congress
2. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur, Pali Constituency Congress

Rajasthan

3. Shri Maulana Abdul Sakur, Ajmer Constituency Congress

(d) Co-opted Member Three

1. Shri Bisheshwar Nath Bhargava.
2. Shri Kishan Lal Lamror.
3. Smt. Rani Urmila Devi—woman.

(e) Specialist One

1. Shri Suwa Lal, President, Cential Cooperative Bank Ltd., Ajmer.
2. Collector, Ajmer

FUNCTIONS—Zila Parishad is mainly a co-ordinating body exercising supervision over the Developmental Activities being carried on in the district.

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The early Chauhan rulers of Ajmer continued the tradition of Western Satraps of giving patronage to Sanskrit and Ajmer became a centre of Sanskrit learning. The Sanskrit College of Visaldev Vighraharaj, remnants of which can still be seen in the *Adhai-Din-Ka-Jhompri*, must have been one of the finest buildings of its time. After the downfall of Chauhans, Sanskrit education received a set-back and was imparted at a much lower level in *posals* and *pathshalas*. Three such Sanskrit *pathshalas* are known to have functioned till recent times at Ajmer, Beawar and Bijainagar.

The Muslim rulers of Ajmer encouraged study of Persian and Arabic literature. The Dargah Sharif School developed into a famous centre for study of these languages. In later years another such institution was established in Nasirabad. It was known as *Madrassa Haqqani*. Training in crafts like manufacture of gold and silver laces, hand printing and dyeing of cloths, making of lac and reed chairs was given by established craftsmen to the apprentices sent to them for this purpose.

After the downfall of Mughals, Ajmer did not enjoy peace and stability till it was ceded to British by Scindia in 1818. In the early years of their rule the only effort made by the Britishers in this direction was grant of a subsidy of Rs. 300 per month to an English Missionary, who had established a school in the city. Indigenous schools still played a predominant role. These numbered 56 in 1845-46. Of these, 42 with a roll of 807 pupils were Hindi and Sanskrit schools, and 14 with 266 pupils were Persian and Arabic schools. 33 of these schools (20 Hindi-Sanskrit and 13 Arabic-Persian) were in the towns of Ajmer and Shahpura (then an *Istimrari* estate in Ajmer) and the rest in the villages. Rajputs, who had an apathy for book learning, were poorly represented in these schools.

In 1836, a government school was set up at Ajmer by the East India Company with a staff consisting of one headmaster, one Hindi teacher and one Urdu teacher. At the end of 1837, the number of pupils in this school stood at 219. Subsequently, the number declined and the school was closed in 1843. However, the next decade showed

a desire for improvement on the part of the people and not only the vernacular schools increased in Ajmer but one for teaching English had been started by private effort also. The time appeared favourable and Government decided to open a school in 1851 with an idea that it might ultimately become a College, if funds permitted. In 1861 this school was affiliated to the Calcutta University and in 1868 it was upgraded to a College.

In 1850, the Government took interest in the primary education for the first time and 75 such schools were established in Ajmer Merwara. Col. Dixon introduced a cess to defray the expenses. The number of schools was subsequently reduced to 57, and the contributions were continued as long as Colonel Dixon lived. An Inspector for village schools was appointed for the Ajmer district in 1851 and another for Merwara in 1852. After Colonel Dixon's death, however, the clamours of the people against the cess became violent so much so that, when the sister-in-law of the Bhinai Raja performed¹ sati in 1857, the last request of Brahmans, who surrounded the pyre, was that she would use her influence for the abolition of the cess for village schools. The cess was abolished and with the exception of Government supported institutions, all schools were closed. The teachers in the indigenous schools were as a class, incompetent and badly paid. The Government Inspector writing in 1858 gave it as his opinion that as long as they continued to be so "popular education through the indigenous schools existing in this province is a hopeless sham and a delusion."² An earlier report had noted the small amount of knowledge acquired in spite of the great length of time during which the boys prosecuted their studies—"when they leave school after having spent some 10 or 12 years in the Persian, 12 or 13 years in the Arabic Schools, they possess little beyond a mechanical knowledge of the Koran and an equally mechanical knowledge of office style."³

In 1860, a school was opened at Jawaja. This was followed by others at Ajmer in 1862, 1875, 1877, 1888 and 1899; Kadera in 1865. Nasirabad and Srinagar in 1868, Masuda in 1883; Arain and Sarwar in 1898.

Attention was given to female education also. For meeting the dearth of female teachers, a training school for them was started at

1. Gazetteer of Ajmer-Merwara by J. D. Latouche 1875, page 61.

2. Gazetteer of Ajmer-Merwara 1905, page 127.

3. *ibid.*

Ajmer in 1867. In 1881, five female schools were functioning in the district. The total number of girl students was 79. There were 30 such schools in 1903 and the number of pupils had risen to 1,840.

At the close of the nineteenth century, there were 71 privately run primary schools with 848 pupils. The number of public primary schools was 50 with a total of 2,843 pupils. In 1903, 12.5 per cent of the boys of school going age were studying in the schools. Out of the 50 public primary schools, seven were exclusively for girls. The public secondary institutions in Ajmer-Merwara numbered 14 in 1903, with a total of 2,465 pupils. Of these five were High Schools with 1,567 pupils, and nine were Middle Schools.

Educational facilities slowly improved during the first half of the present century. Actual figures for decades can also be cited. In 1931, there were 382 institutions in the state with 24,121 pupils. In the year 1948-49, the state had 459 educational institutions with 45,568 pupils. By 1951 the number of institutions rose to 655 for a population of 6,93,372. With the installation of popular ministry in this state in March 1952, educational development was given an added tempo of progress and development, and has since succeeded in taking education to nearly every village in the area.

Educational Progress in Kishangarh State

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS—The number of schools in Kishangarh State during the years 1908-09, 1913-14, 1933-34, 1938-39, and 1940-41 was 26, 26, 33, 29 and 45 respectively. The categorisation of schools was as follows:—

Year	1908-09	1913-14	1933-34	1938-39	1940-41
1. English School for boys:					
(i) Anglo-Vernacular Middle School	1	1	—	—	—
(ii) High School	—	—	1	1	1
2. Vernacular Schools for boys:					
(i) Secondary Schools	8	3	4	5	5
(ii) Upper Primary Schools	—	6	4	5	5
(iii) Primary Schools	17	17	18	15	30
3. Girls' Schools:					
(i) Upper Primary Schools	—	—	—	1	1
(ii) Primary Schools	3	2	2	1	1
4. Aided Schools	—	—	4	1	1
5. Night Schools	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	26	26	33	29	45

During the year 1909-10, three Boys' Primary Schools were closed, owing to the out-break of plague in several rural districts. During the year 1913-14 four new primary schools were opened, while one primary school was removed from Dhasuk to Kakalwara, owing to the insufficiency of pupils there. During the year 1934-35, three aided schools and two Boys' Primary Schools were closed and one primary school was newly opened. During the year 1940-41, 15 new primary schools and one Night School were opened.

Number of Students—The total number of students on roll during the years 1908-09, 1913-14, 1933-34, 1938-39 and 1940-41 was 927, 1020, 1334, 1464 and 1920 respectively.

GIRLS' SCHOOLS—There were only three Primary Girls Schools during the year 1909-10 but only one at Sarwar was reported to have done well. During the year 1933-34 the number fell to two schools. In the year 1942-43, one of the girls' primary schools, was raised to Upper Primary School.

NUMBER OF GIRLS' STUDENTS—The number of girls' students on roll during the years 1911-12, 1933-34, 1938-39 and 1941-42 was 5,14,490 and 123 respectively.

CO-EDUCATION—In 1938-39, system of co-education had been introduced in schools for boys, and girls in limited number received education in schools at Arain, Bamba, Sampla and Jojota. In July, 1940, three girl students joined 3rd class of the High School at Kishan-garh.

NIGHT SCHOOL—During the year 1940-41, one night school had been opened at Dadhia. The people seemed to be keenly interested in it. This had been introduced as an experiment. It was proposed to launch a literary campaign through these night schools in rural areas.

EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION—The figures of budget allotment and total expenditure were as follows:—

	(Rupees)				
Year	1908-09	1913-14	1933-34	1938-39	1940-41
Budget allotment	17,289	9,609	25,214	22,537/4	28,211/4
Total expenditure	12,643	7,597/2	17,413	19,073	24,366

LITERACY AND EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

Literacy

As Ajmer was under the direct British rule right from the beginning of the nineteenth century, facilities for education were comparatively more developed. From 1901 to 1941, the number of literates per 1,000 was:—

Year	Male	Female	Total
1901	142	10	152
1911	163	17	180
1921	210	28	238
1931	223	37	260
1941	251	54	305

This compares favourably with Rajasthan average, which was:—

1901	75	2	77
1911	79	3	82
1921	81	5	86
1931	86	6	92
1941	117	13	130

According to the Census of 1951, the percentage of literate persons to the total population was 18.2, the percentage of literate male population being 26.7 and of literate females being 9.0. The percentage of literacy rose to 25.30 (male 35.99, female 13.60) in 1961 which is highest in Rajasthan and is far above the State average of 15.21 and the all India average of 24.00. As compared with literacy percentage of the district, the percentage for Ajmer City is 47.73.

EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS—The educational standard may be gauged from the Chart given below indicating the number of scholars in various educational institutions during 1960-61.

Colleges

	Boys	Girls
General Education	4,311	1,533
Professional Education	92	28
Special Education	19	34

Schools

	Boys	Girls
Higher Secondary	13,251	2,427
High School	2,172	1,023
Senior Basic	5,882	3,654
Middle	6,842	4,163
Junior Basic	47,781	7,732
Primary	17,323	11,017
Professional	1,105	133
Special	742	12
TOTAL	99,520	31,756

This shows the stage of education reached in individual cases. The position of course, has greatly changed as a result of the rapid increase in the number of schools during the two Plan periods.

Education of Women

The first girls' school in the State was opened in 1896 by the French Congregation of St. Mary of the Angels. The medium of instruction was English. The second school for girls was established in 1914 and was named as Savitri Girls School. The third school, named as Sophia Girls School was opened in 1919 by the Ajmer Diocesan Corporation Private Ltd., and the Mission Sisters of Ajmer. These were the three principal schools of the State which imparted education to girls upto the Middle standard. In 1927, there were in all 17 girls schools in the State. In 1931, there were 21 schools for girls and the number rose to 33 in 1941 and 35 in 1951. In 1960-61, there were 255 institutions for girls in the district, the distribution category-wise is as follows:

Colleges—4, High and Higher Secondary Schools—10, Senior Basic and Middle Schools—19, Junior Basic and Primary Schools—61, Professional School—1 and Schools for Special Education—160.

GENERAL EDUCATION

The administrative set up of the Education Department before merger consisted of a Director of Education assisted by an Assistant Director, an Inspector of Schools and an Assistant Deputy Inspector. Of these the Director belonged to Class I service and the rest to class

II. Assistant Director was incharge of basic and social education in the state. The Inspectress of school was incharge of girls education up to High School standard. The Inspector of Schools was incharge of boys schools up to middle standard. The Assistant Deputy Inspector assisted the Inspector of Schools in the conduct of inspections. High schools and Intermediate colleges were inspected and supervised by the Director himself.

After merger, Ajmer has one Inspector of Schools assisted by two Deputy Inspectors and three Sub-Deputy Inspectors. The Inspector and the Deputy Inspectors are class II officers and the Sub-Deputy Inspector belongs to Subordinate Educational Services. Besides, 11 Sub-Deputy Inspectors are working with Panchayat Samitis and supervise the schools, the administrative control for which is now exercised by Panchayat Samitis. The Education Department still retains control over purely academic matters. All the High, Higher Secondary and Multipurpose Schools are inspected by the Inspector. The Deputy Inspector inspects the Middle Schools, and the Primary Schools are supervised by Sub-Deputy Inspector. The Inspector of Schools also inspects 10 per cent of Middle and Primary Schools, similarly, the Deputy Inspector inspects 10 per cent of Primary schools. The administration and supervision of girls schools of the district is under Deputy Inspectress of Girls Schools, stationed at Ajmer.

In recent years three significant changes in the field of education have been coming up: (i) transfer of the control of primary schools to the Panchayat Samitis, (ii) upgrading of number of schools in the rural areas and (iii) craft orientation and a practical bias given to primary education. Prior to 1951 there were no High Schools in the rural areas. All the High Schools were located in the towns of Ajmer, Beawar, Nasirabad, Bijainagar and Kekri. This had the effect of making High School education more expensive for the pupils from the villages than for those from the towns. The result was that very few village boys and girls proceeded beyond the Middle School stage. To remedy this the Government Middle School at Pushkar was raised to the High School standard in 1951. By the end of the First Five Year Plan, 37 Middle Schools were raised to the High School standard in the rural areas with facilities for teaching subjects like agriculture, commerce, science etc.

Primary Schools

The Ajmer Primary Education Act was passed in 1952, but, was enforced in November 1954 in the sub divisions of Ajmer, Beawar and

Kekri. However, the municipal towns of Ajmer, Beawar, Nasirabad, Kekri, Deoli Bijainagar and Pushkar were excluded from the purview of the above Act. Out of the 45,867 children of school going age, only 24,600 (or 53.7 per cent) actually attended the schools. In 1960-61, 512 out of the total number of 728 primary schools in the district were placed under the control of Panchayat Samitis. The distribution of the primary schools, Panchayat Samiti-wise is as follows:—

Pisangan	—	81
Srinagar	—	60
Jawaja	—	88
Masuda	—	61
Kekri	—	48
Bhinai	—	65
Kishangarh	—	57
Arain	—	52

The Railways own nine primary schools, primarily for the children of their staff. 29 primary schools are run by private parties, receiving state grants up to 60 to 90 per cent of approved expenditure. Efforts have been made to convert primary schools into junior basic schools. By 1960-61, 587 schools had been converted in this manner. The total number of teachers employed in the primary and junior basic schools during the year 1960-61 was 2,055 and that of taught 83,853. The total number of girls primary schools in the district was 33. Girls are also admitted to the other primary schools, but their total number in them is at present small.

Middle Schools

Within a period of ten years, the number of middle schools has risen from 39 to 81 including 45 senior basic schools. The boys schools in the area are controlled by the Inspector of Schools and those of girls are under the administrative control of Assistant Inspectress of Schools. The girls schools are at: Ajmer (7), Beawar (2), Nasirabad (2), Kekri (2), Kishangarh (1), Sarwar (1), Pisangan (1), Sawar (1), Pushkar (1) and Bhinai (1). The boys schools are at the following places: Ajmer (13), Beawar (3), Kishangarh (3), Nasirabad (3), Ararka, Babaicha, Baghsuri, Baghera, Bandanwara, Bandarsindari, Barakhera, Barana, Beawarkhas, Dadia, Deogan, Durgawas, Deoliakalan, Gagwana, Govindgarh, Jamola, Jethana, Jhak, Junia, Kanpura, Kabra, Karel, Karkeri, Kekri, Kharwa, Kuchil, Liri, Lityana, Mehrunkalan, Paran, Piplaj, Pranhara, Rajgarh, Ramgarh, Rajiawas, Ralavata, Sadara, Salemabad, Sampla and Tantoli. The total number of students in the girls middle schools was 7,817 and the number of teachers 268. The boys' middle schools had a total number of 12,724 pupils and 688 teachers (1960-61).

High and Higher Secondary Schools

In 1951, the district had 24 High Schools. Since then, the number has gradually increased to 52 (including higher secondary schools). Description of some of these are given below. The total number of students attending these schools is 18,873 and the number of teachers is 955 (in 1960-61).

The multipurpose Higher Secondary Schools provide teaching facilities for academic subjects as well as crafts of various kinds e.g., gardening, tailoring, wood craft, metal craft, stenography etc. In some of the schools agriculture is also taught which includes rural agriculture, horticulture, biology, chemistry and animal husbandry. Ajmer and Beawar have three such schools each while Bijainagar, Kekri, Masuda, Pisangan, Pushkar and Saradhna have one each.

Higher Secondary Schools

GOVERNMENT MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—Started in 1923 as a primary school, it was raised to the higher secondary standard in 1956. The teaching staff consists of 45 members. In 1960-61, the number of students was 745. The school has a hostel, a swimming pool and a library containing 12,000 books.

THE GOVERNMENT OSWAL JAIN MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—It was established in 1899 as a religious institution. Gradually, it was raised to a high school in 1929. The school was provincialized in 1956 and raised to the present standard in 1959. The school library contains 5,838 books. The total number of students in 1960-61 session was 851 and the number of teachers was 33.

GOVERNMENT MONIA ISLAMIA MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—The school was started in the year 1910 by some prominent Muslim citizens of the city, who formed a trust for the education of children of their community. The school was, however, provincialized in 1918 and the admission was opened to all. Teaching of theology however, continued till 1947 and the teachers used to be paid their salaries by the Durgah Committee. The school was brought under the Associated Schools Project Scheme of UNESCO in the year 1956 and was the first to be selected as a Pilot School in 1958. It was raised to the present standard in 1959. This is the only institution in Ajmer where Urdu and Persian are taught. In the 1960-61 session, the total number of students was 848 and that of teachers 35. The school has a library of 5,461 books.

GOVERNMENT GIRLS MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, BEAWAR—It was established in 1920 as a primary school. It was raised to a middle school in 1928, a high school in 1951 and a higher secondary school in 1956. The school offers courses in Home Science, Fine Arts and Humanities. In 1960-61 the school had 324 students and 22 teachers.

GOVERNMENT PATEL MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, BEAWAR—This school was originally an aided middle school, managed by the Beawar Municipal Committee. In 1954, it was provincialized and raised to the high school standard. In 1955, Government High School for Sindhis at Beawar was amalgamated with it. The school was raised to the present standard in 1956. There are nearly 10,000 books in the library. The total number of students in 1960-61 was 964 and that of teachers 55.

THE GOVERNMENT JAIN GURUKUL MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, BEAWAR—It was originally run by Jain Gurukul Shikshan Sangh Beawar. They had their own courses and syllabi. In 1951, it was recognized as a High School by the Central Board of Secondary Education, Ajmer and named as Shri Jain Gurukul Vidya Mandir. In 1956, it was provincialized. In 1959 it was raised to the present standard. The school library contains about 8,000 books on varied subjects. The total number of students on roll during the 1960-61 session was 382 with 22 teachers.

GOVERNMENT NARAIN MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, BIJAINAGAR—This school was started in 1930 as a middle school and was raised to the high school standard in 1934 and to the Higher Secondary standard in 1956. It was converted into a Multipurpose Higher Secondary School in 1958. This school was till its provincialization in 1956, an aided institution run by Rao Sahib Narain Singh of Masuda. The library contains 6,237 books. The total number of students in 1960-61 session was 442 and that of teachers 30.

GOVERNMENT MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, KEKRI—The exact date of the establishment of this school could not be ascertained but the municipal records show that it was running as a primary school since 1908. In 1915, it was raised to the middle standard and in 1933 to High School standard. In 1946, it was taken over by the Govt. who raised it to the present standard in 1955. The National Discipline Scheme has recently been introduced in this school. The number of students in the 1960-61 session was 406 and that of teachers 28.

GOVERNMENT MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, MASUDA—The school was started about 1883, as a primary school by the Missionaries. Later on it was taken over by the Government and raised to the Middle standard in 1916, to the High School standard in 1954 and to the present standard in 1958. The school library contains 6,460 books. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 245 and that of teachers 14. The school has a hostel.

GOVERNMENT MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, PISANGAN—This school was raised to the High School standard in 1952 and to the present standard in 1958. Its library contains about 4,000 books on all subjects. The total strength of the school in 1960-61 session was 355 students with 25 teachers. The school has a hostel.

GOVERNMENT MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, PUSHKAR—The old history of this school is not known. In July 1951, this school was raised to the High School standard and to the present standard in 1956. The school has a library containing 5,600 books. The total number of students in 1960-61 was 328 and that of teachers 27. The school has a hostel.

GOVERNMENT MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, SARADIANA—The school was established in the second decade of the present century. In 1954, it was raised to the High School standard and in 1955 to the present standard. The school has a library containing 4,030 books. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 352 and that of teachers 18.

GOVERNMENT MAHATMA GANDHI HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—It was opened in 1947 as an aided institution managed by a private body. The school catered to the needs of boys and girls of the Sindhi Community up to tenth class. In 1959 the school was provincialized and raised to the Higher Secondary standard. The school has no building of its own but is running in the D.A.V. Higher Secondary School building at Kaiser Ganj in the second shift. The strength of the school was 652 pupils and 26 teachers (1961-62).

HUSBAND MEMORIAL HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—It was established in the year 1862 by Dr. John Robson, as an Anglo-Vernacular School. In 1900, it acquired the status of a High School and received recognition under the name of United Free Church Mission High School. The total enrolment at that time was less than 100. The school was raised to the present standard in 1960. The school library contains 4,920 books. The institute also maintains a hostel. The total number of students during the 1960-61 session was 869 and that of teachers 26.

DAYANAND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—It was established in 1888 as a religious institution. It was raised to the present standard in 1959. The institution is controlled by Arya Samaj Education Society, Ajmer. The school library has 3,500 books. The total number of students in 1960-61 session was 766 with 26 teachers.

ST. ANSLEM'S HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—It was founded in 1904 by the French Catholic Mission. It was recognized as an Anglo Indian School, teaching upto Senior Cambridge standard. In 1951 courses of High School and Intermediate Arts and Science were introduced. In 1958, it switched over to Higher Secondary pattern in accordance with the Government policy. It is controlled by Ajmer Diocesan Corporation Limited, a Roman Catholic body registered under the provisions of the Indian Companies Act (VII of 1913) and having the Bishop of Ajmer-Jaipur as its general manager. The school library has 4,551 books. The total number of students on roll is 787 and that of teachers is 34.

ST. PAUL'S HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—It was started as a branch of St. Anslem's with English as medium of instruction to teach students upto fifth standard. In 1950 the management decided on a change to keep in tune with the trend in the country and introduced Hindi as the medium of instruction. In 1951, the school applied to the State Education Department for recognition as a Primary School, which was duly granted. In 1955, the institution was raised to the Middle standard and in 1956 to the Higher Secondary standard. This school too is run by the Ajmer Diocesan Corporation (Pvt.) Ltd. The school maintains an open shelf library containing about 2,300 books. The school maintains a boarding house. The total number of students in 1960-61 session was 742 with 28 teachers.

ADARSH VIDYALAYA, AJMER—It was started in 1956 as a Middle School and was raised to the Higher Secondary standard in 1957. The institution is controlled by Adarsh Vidya Samiti, Ajmer. The school library is stocked with 3,404 books. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 455 and the number of teachers was 17.

THE GOVERNMENT JAWAHAR HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—It was established in 1948 as Sindhi High School No. 2. It was raised to the present standard in 1960. The total number of students on roll during the 1960-61 session was 703 and the number of teachers was 41.

GOVERNMENT TIKAMCHAND JAIN HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—It was established in the year 1944 as a Middle school and was upgraded to the Higher Secondary standard in 1960. The school was

provincialized in 1956. The school library contains more than 5,000 books. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 578 and that of teachers 30.

AGARWAL HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—Located in Daulat Bagh, this institution was started in 1904 as a Marwari Pathshala to educate and train young boys for various vocations. It was raised to the Middle standard in 1932, to the High School standard in 1946 and to the present standard in 1956. The institution is controlled by a Committee. The school has a library having more than 6,000 books on different subjects. In 1960-61, the number of students was 376 and that of teachers 17.

GOVERNMENT CENTRAL GIRLS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—Established in 1926 as a Middle School, it was raised to the High School in 1945 and to the Higher Secondary in 1958. The school has a library containing 8,062 books. The total number of students in 1960-61 was 816 with 50 teachers.

SOPHIA GIRLS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—This school was set up in 1919 as a specific public English school for Indian boys and girls. It was raised to the High School standard in 1935 and to the Intermediate standard in 1942. With the introduction of the three year degree course, it became a Higher Secondary School. The school is a part of the Sophia College which is described later in this chapter. At present, the school has on its roll 1,289 students of which 760 are in the Montessori class. The strength of staff is 31. The school has its own hostel.

ARYAPURI HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—The institution was founded as a primary school in 1898 and is one of the oldest girls institutions in Ajmer. In 1945, it was raised to a Middle school and in 1958 to a Higher Secondary School. The school is managed by the Arya Female Education Society. For a long time education was free and tuition fee was levied only in 1947. The school also imparts education in Sanskrit and Music. During the session of 1960-61, the school had 556 students on its rolls with a staff of 25 teachers.

SARASWATI BALIKA VIDYAPEETHI MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—Established in 1924 as a primary school for the benefit of the backward classes, it was raised to the middle school standard in 1946, to the high school standard in 1955 and to the Higher Secondary standard in 1956. The school is controlled by the Shikshan Sanstha, Ajmer. The school has a modernized hostel for 100 boarders. The number of students and teachers in the 1960-61 session was 850

and 35 respectively. The school library has 4,430 books. The school also holds basic S.T.C. training classes.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, ARAIN—It was established in the year 1898 as a primary school and was upgraded to the present standard in 1958. The total number of students during the 1960-61 session was 146, and that of teachers 12.

GOVERNMENT S. D. HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, BEAWAR—It was originally established in 1904 as a Sanskrit *pathshala*. It was raised to the status of an Intermediate College in the year 1932. In 1956, it was degraded to the Matriculation standard, but, however, raised to the Higher Secondary standard in 1960. The school has a library containing 3,335 books. The total number of students on roll was 275 with a teaching staff of 18 (1960-61).

MOHAMMAD ALI MEMORIAL HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, BEAWAR—It was established in 1932 as a High School and was raised to the present standard in 1958. Additions were made to the school building also and now there is a separate science block and an extension accommodating lecture rooms and the library. The school has been a centre of Board Examinations since 1952. The school is managed and financed by Mohammad Ali Memorial Committee. The school library has 4,234 books. The school has a hostel. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 158 and that of teachers 12.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, HARMARA—It was established in 1931 as a Middle School. In 1960 it was upgraded to the Higher Secondary standard. It has a library containing about 2,500 books. The total number of students receiving instructions was 135 with 9 teachers (1960-61).

MAHILA SHIKSHA SADAN MULTIPURPOSE HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, HATUNDI—Established in 1945 as a primary school it was upgraded to High School in 1952 and to Higher Secondary School in 1957. It offers courses in Basic Senior Teachers Training Certificate also. The school is located in village Hatundi, about 8 miles from Ajmer on the Ajmer-Nasirabad line. The school has a library containing more than 8,000 books. The school has two hostels, one for the students of primary and secondary classes and the other for the S.T.C. trainees. In 1960-61, the total number of students was 900, and that of teachers 45.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, JALIA—It was estab-

lished in 1912 as a Middle School and upgraded to the Higher Secondary standard in 1960. The school is located in village Jalia, seven miles from Bijainagar in Beawar tahsil. The school has a library of more than 4,500 books. It has its own hostel. The total number of boys on roll was 170 with 12 teachers in the 1960-61 session.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, JAWAJA—Established as primary school in the year 1860, it was raised to the status of the Middle School in 1957 and to the Higher Secondary standard in 1960. There are more than 3,000 books in the school library. The school has no hostel of its own, but the public of Jawaja has constructed a hostel named as Gandhiji Chhatrawas with accommodation for 35 students. The total number of students in the school during the 1960-61 session was 152 and the number of teachers was 10.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, KADERA—It was established about the year 1860 as a primary school. It was raised to the Middle standard in 1954 and upgraded to the Higher Secondary standard in 1960. The school has no hostel of its own. However, there is a private hostel in Kadera with 8 rooms, accommodating 20 students. The total number of students on roll was 85 and that of teachers nine (1960-61).

K. D. JAIN HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, KISHANGARH—Established in 1935, it was recognized as High School in 1951 and was upgraded to the Higher Secondary standard in 1959. The school is managed by a Committee of seven members of which the Collector of Ajmer is the ex-officio Chairman. The school has a hostel with accommodation for 76. It is a co-educational institution. In 1960-61 there were 986 students including 145 girls. The total number of teachers was 40.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, KISHANGARH—Opened in 1923 as a primary school, it was raised to the Intermediate standard in 1951. In 1959, the institute was bifurcated into a higher secondary school and a Degree College. The school has a well stocked library of about 7,000 books. In the 1960-61 session, the school has a well of about 7,000 books. In the 1960-61 session, the school had 226 students and 23 teachers.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, RAMSAR—It was established in the third decade of the present century as a primary school and was raised to the Middle standard in 1942. It was upgraded to the Higher Secondary standard in 1959. The school library contains 4,616 books. The total number of students on roll during the 1960-61

session was 189. The teaching staff consisted of 11 members. The school has a hostel with accommodation for 45.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, RUPNAGAR—The school was established in 1896 to prepare students for the Middle School Examination. It was raised to the present standard in 1956. The school has a hostel with accommodation for 24. It has a library containing 3,746 books. During the 1960-61 session, the school had 192 students and 10 teachers.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, SAWAR—It was established in 1901 as a Primary school and was upgraded as a Middle school in 1911, as a High School in 1954 and finally to the present standard in 1959. The school has a boarding house. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 259 and that of teachers 20.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, SRINAGAR—It was originally established in 1968 as a primary school and was upgraded to the Middle school in 1926, to the High School in 1955 and, finally to the present standard in 1960. The school has a library containing 1,482 books. The school has its own hostel having five rooms. In 1960-61, the total number of students on roll was 161 and that of teachers 11.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, TODGARH—It was established in 1932 as a primary school. In the year 1943 it was raised to the Middle standard and then raised to the High School in 1953. It was upgraded to the Higher Secondary standard in 1960. The school has its own hostel. The total number of students on roll was 149 and the number of teachers 10 during the 1960-61 session.

GOVERNMENT HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, BIHINAI—The Government High School was converted to the higher secondary standard in 1960. There were eleven teachers and 191 boys in the school during 1960. The school has a small library containing 2,447 books.

VIRJANAND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, AJMER—The school which was of high school standard and managed by a private committee, was given recognition by the government in 1955 and was upgraded to higher secondary standard in 1960.

High Schools

GOVERNMENT RAJENDRA HIGH SCHOOL, AJMER—Started in 1947

by the District Congress Committee for refugees from West Pakistan, it was taken over by the Government in 1948 and upgraded to the High School. The school has a library containing 3,856 books. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 850 and the number of teachers 33.

DAYANAND HIGH SCHOOL, AJMER—It was established in 1943, but was given recognition only in 1945. It was raised to the High School in 1946. The institution is controlled by a Committee. The school has a library containing about 2,800 books. In the 1960-61 session the total number of students on roll were 650 and the number of teachers 22.

GAUTAM HIGH SCHOOL, AJMER—It was originally founded in 1961 by Shri Ghisoo Guran, who himself imparted instructions in Hindi and Mathematics. After his death, his sons and descendants continued it under the name of Deshi Pathshala. In 1949, this school was recognized under the name of Gautam School. In 1954, it was raised to the High School. The institution is controlled by a committee of Gujar community. It has a library containing 3,874 books. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 293 with 12 teachers.

GOVERNMENT GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, BIJAINAGAR—Established in 1934 as a primary school, it was raised to the Middle standard in 1945 and to the High School standard in 1960. The school has a small library containing 2,248 books. During the 1960-61 session, the school had 65 students and 6 teachers.

MISSION HIGH SCHOOL, NASIRABAD—Established by the Scottish Missionaries as primary school in 1868, it was raised to the High School standard in 1869. In 1959, the school moved into its new building which is very spacious, and has vast play grounds. The school lays special emphasis on character building through moral instructions. On Fridays, mass drill is followed by debates and discussions on important topics. The instruction is controlled by Rajasthan Church Council. The school has a library containing about 4,500 books. The school hostel provides accommodation to 50 students. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 824 and the number of teachers was 29.

GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, SARWAR—It was originally established in 1898 as a primary school and raised to Middle standard in 1909, and to the High School in 1955. As the accommodation was inadequate, the local municipal committee constructed a room at its town. The

State Government also contributed for the construction of two more rooms. The school has a small library of 2,077 books. The school has its own hostel. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 130 and the number of teachers was 11.

GOVERNMENT GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL, KISHANGARH—The school was started by the Kishangarh Darbar in 1910. Uptill 1942 it was a primary school when it was raised to the middle standard. In 1948, the school was taken over by the Rajasthan Government. The school was raised to the present standard in 1957. During the session 1960-61, the school had 104 students and eight teachers.

The other three High Schools are: King George High School, Ajmer; Mission Girls High School, Ajmer; and Kanya Hitkarani High School, Nasirabad.

Colleges

The Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan 1961 mentions that there were nine colleges for general education, one for professional education and one for special attention in the district during 1960-61. The total enrolment in these colleges was 6,017. Teachers numbered 362.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, AJMER—This is one of the oldest institutions in the district. It was established in 1836 as a Public School by the Court of Directors of the East India Company. This school developed into a high school in 1847. It was affiliated in 1861 to the Fine Arts Standard of the Calcutta University. Uptil 1875, thirty-seven students passed matriculation, and eight passed the Fine Arts Examination. In 1872, there were 235 students in the school. The demand for a degree college grew apace as there were no facilities for higher education at Ajmer and the students had to go to colleges at Agra or Allahabad to obtain degrees. In 1892, the ex-students of the college formed an association and launched an agitation to raise the High School to the Degree standard. They raised among themselves a sum of Rs. 44,000 and handed it over to the Government. Ultimately in 1896, the school was raised to the standard of Degree College. The B.Sc. classes were opened in 1913. Its rapid expansion started from 1916, when post-graduate classes in Zoology, Botany, and Economics were also started.

At present the college offers courses for the Pre-University class in Arts and Science for B.A., B.Sc., B.Com. (three-year and the Conventional two-year final classes) and for M.A., M.Sc., M.Com., LL.B. and Ph.D. degrees of the Rajasthan University. It also offers

facilities for the two-year Junior Diploma Course in Secretarial and Business Training, the minimum qualification required for admission being the High School Examination certificate. The annual examinations are conducted by the University of Rajasthan.

The college has a staff of 94 teachers, several of them being specialists in their fields. The total number of students on roll during the 1960-61 session was 1,626.

The college has a well-stocked library of 29,300 books and the college Reading Room subscribes to about 150 newspapers and periodicals.

The college hostel was built in 1926 and accommodates 48 boys and 12 girls. Two new hostels with a capacity to accommodate 80 boys and 40 girls are under construction.

The students have formed a number of clubs and associations to promote literary activity and provide social amenities. Some of these are, College Union, Literary Forum, Social Service League, Camera Club, History Seminar, Philosophy Association, Economics Association, Natural Science Society, Mathematical Society, Amateur Dramatic Club and Olympian Club.

D.A.V. COLLEGE, AJMER—Established in 1818 as a small *pathshala* it was raised to the High School standard in 1922 and to the Intermediate standard in 1942. The College is located on an extensive area of 400 acres just outside the city on the Beawar road. It is situated in picturesque natural surroundings at the foot of the famous Taragarh hill fortress. It is controlled by Arya Samaj Education Society, Ajmer. The college has a library containing 12,045 books on varied subjects. The college reading room subscribes to 50 newspapers and periodicals. Post-graduate classes in Political Science, History and Commerce were started in 1958. In 1959, courses in Sociology and Law were introduced. This college also offers courses in Agriculture upto degree standard. The college has a farm having an area of 125 acres attached to it.

There are two hostels attached to the college which can accommodate 120 students. The total number of students in the college in 1960-61 session was 1,446 while the number of teachers was 49. The students have formed several associations and clubs like Students Union, Hindi Parishad, Political Science Association, Sociology Asso-

ciation, Thinkers Club, Dramatic Club, Fine Arts Association, Scientific Association, Social Service League, etc.

The College has a swimming pool and a stadium, constructed with the assistance of Union Ministry of Education under its youth welfare programme.

S. D. GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, BEAWAR—This institution was established in the year 1904 by the Sanatan Dharma Sabha as a *sanskrit pathshala*. It was raised to Intermediate College in 1929. The Sanatan Dharma Sabha handed over this institution to the erstwhile Ajmer Government in 1955. The Government raised it to Degree standard in the same year providing instructions in Arts and Commerce subjects. In 1956, degree classes in Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics together with post-graduate classes in Hindi, English, Sociology, Economics and Commerce were added. In July, 1957 the college introduced Biology in Intermediate and degree classes.

The college library contains more than 20,000 books and has open shelf system. It subscribes to 50 newspapers and magazines. The college hostel accommodates 60 students. The total number of students in the year 1960-61 was 500 and that of teachers 40.

The college has a Parliament of elected student leaders. The Upper House of the Parliament consists of first class students of the college, the Artists and the Senior Under Officers of National Cadet Corps. A student of post-graduate class obtaining the highest marks is declared as President of the Upper House. Then there are three States—Arts, Commerce and Science. The faculty incharge of the respective states are designated as the Governors of the States.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, KISHANGARH—The institution was opened in 1923, as a primary school. It was raised to the Intermediate standard in 1951, and to the degree standard in 1959. It offerse courses in three faculties—Arts, Science and Commerce.

The College is situated near the Courts. The college library has about 5,000 books. The college hostel accommodates 28 students. The total number of students during 1960-61 session was 196 and the number of teachers was 20.

All the major games are provided in the college. Students are encouraged to take part in extra-curricular activities. There is a stu-

dents' Union which organizes extra-curricular activities such as debates, essay competitions, kavi sammelans and Music Conferences. There are other organisations such as Economic Forum, the Literary Association, the Commerce Association and the Sanskrit Association which are run by the students.

MAYO COLLEGE, AJMER—It was established in 1875 at the suggestion of Lord Mayo, a college where the sons of chiefs and nobles might receive education to fit them for their high positions. It was managed with substantial endowments from the princes and subsidies from the State. The endowment fund subscribed by 17 Rajputana States amounted to about rupees seven lakhs. The interest of this sum added to a Government subsidy forms the income of the college.

The college is situated in an extensive well laid out part of 300 acres on the outskirts of Ajmer city. Some of the states built boarding houses while the Government of India presented the College Park comprising 167 acres, erected the main building, the residences of the Principal and Vice-Principal and the Ajmer Boarding House. The Government of India also provided the salaries of the English Staff. The foundation of the College was laid in 1878 and the building was opened by Marquis of Dufferin in 1885. The main building is of white marble. The Ajmer Boarding House stands apart to the south of the main building, while the other nine boarding houses are arranged in the form of a horse-shoe with the college in the centre.

The College was administered by a Council of which the Viceroy of India was President and the Agent to the Governor General for Rajputana was Vice-President. The Chiefs of Rajputana and the Political Officers accredited to them were members of the Council and the Principal was Secretary.

At present the Mayo College is governed by a General Council which consists of the following: 1. The Collector, Ajmer, 2. Four old boys of the College, 3. A Representative of the Government of Rajasthan, 4. One member of the Inter-University Board, 5. One member of the Indian Public Schools Conference, 6. Two representatives of Industry and Commerce, 7. Up to five persons whose association may be considered of benefit to the college, 8. A treasurer and 9. The Principal.

The English staff in 1903 consisted of Principal, Vice Principal and two assistant Masters. The total number of admissions from the opening of the college to 1904 was 359. Uptil 1944 admissions were

restricted to the sons of the rulers of landed classes and boys were prepared for the College Diploma equivalent to the Matriculation and a higher diploma equivalent to B.A. In 1944 the diploma examinations were abolished. The school then prepared boys for the matriculation, intermediate and B.A. examination of Agra University and for the Cambridge School certificate examination. In 1946 the College became a Public School open to all without distinction of caste or creed or race or class. In 1948 the B.A. classes were abolished. Boys were prepared for the Matriculation and the Intermediate examinations both in Arts and Science of the Rajputana Board of Education and the Cambridge School Certificates Examination.

Apart from the regular studies the boys undergo training in gymnastics, athletics, sports and games, swimming, special emphasis being laid on development of responsibility and leadership in the students.

This is the only residential institute in the district. It has a library having about 10,000 books. The total number of boys during the 1960-61 session was 420, and that of teachers 30. The college museum contains good specimens of ancient art of Rajputana. The daily school routine includes physical training in the early morning, morning assembly, six periods of instruction, compulsory games in the evening and supervised preparation in the boarding houses. A time is set aside for boys who wish to attend the temple and for contemplation for those who do not go to the temple. Boys devote part of Sundays to their hobbies which is a compulsory subject. Other facilities provided are swimming and gardening.

GOVERNMENT VYAPARIK INTERMEDIATE COLLEGE, NASIRABAD—It was established in 1921 by some local philanthropists and was raised to a High School in 1940 and to the Intermediate standard in 1953. The institute has a library containing 6,220 books. The total number of students in the 1960-61 session was 427 and that of teachers 21.

SAVIRI COLLEGE, AJMER—Established in 1914 as a primary girls' school, it was raised to the High School standard in 1933, to the Intermediate standard in 1943 and to the Degree standard in 1951. The college is located in Civil Lines. The college library has more than 1,000 books. The college has two sections, (i) from pre-primary to Higher Secondary and (ii) degree section. The total number of girl students in the 1960-61 session was 280 and the number of teachers was 12.

SOPHIA GIRLS COLLEGE, AJMER—This college is a direct development of Sophia Girls School established in 1919 at Ajmer. It was

accepted as a special public English School for Indian boys and girls in 1926 by the Education Department and was placed on the list of aided schools in 1927. It was raised to the High School standard in 1935 and to the Intermediate standard in 1942. In the course of years, it became the principal institution for girls in the area. Tutorial classes for private girl candidates for the degree examination were opened in 1956. With the introduction on the three-year degree course, provisional affiliation was granted by the University of Rajasthan in 1959. This was followed by the permanent affiliation in 1961. At present the college has two sections: The junior (kindergarten to higher secondary) and the college section.

The college is situated on the Jaipur road at a distance of two miles from Ajmer city. It is controlled by the Ajmer Diocesan Corporation Private Limited and the Mission Sisters of Ajmer.

The college offers courses in Arts subjects only. A hostel is attached to the college. The college library has 2,823 books. The total number of students in the college section during the 1960-61 session was 69 only with 8 lecturers. The college has its own transport for the use of students.

CONVENT GIRLS' COLLEGE, AJMER—The Convent Girls' College of St. Mary of the Angels, was founded in Ajmer in 1896 by the French Congregation of St. Mary of the Angels. It was perhaps one of the oldest High Schools for girls in the city. This is an Intermediate College. It was formerly affiliated to the Ajmer Board. The medium of instruction is English. The institution is run by a religious congregation of European nuns whose controlling authority is Mother Superior of the Franciscans of St. Mary of the Angels. It has a library containing 2,500 books and a hostel which can accommodate 60 students. The institution also imparts training in European music and is affiliated to the Trinity College of Music, London.

Affiliation

The State of Ajmer had no University of its own. In the beginning, the High Schools and colleges were affiliated to the Calcutta University. But with the establishment of University at Allahabad and later at Agra, the affiliation was transferred to them. In 1947, the Rajputana University was established and the institutions at Ajmer transferred their affiliation from Agra to the Rajasthan University at Jaipur. The Rajasthan Board of Secondary Education, Ajmer conducts examinations upto Higher Secondary standard. Examinations in senior basic training are conducted by Registrar, Departmental Examination, Jaipur.

of the army at Ajmer. Each hutment can conveniently accommodate four apprentices. Free furnished accommodation is given to the hostellers. There are two dinning halls and two kitchens attached to the hostel, one for the vegetarians and the other for the non-vegetarians. The vegetarian mess is usually more popular than the non-vegetarian. The mess runs on co-operative basis.

The Trade apprentices serve their apprenticeship for a period of five years. These Trade apprentices of the Loco Carriage & Wagon, and Divisional Electrical Engineering (W) Ajmer are called to attend the Technical School for one day per week. Annual examination are held in the month of February.

Train Examiner Promotion Course has been started for the skilled artisans. The duration of training is one year (Theoretical— 6 months and practical 6 months).

The refresher courses for the Train Examiners and Fitter Charge-men, B.M. Chargemen and Mistries have been started from August 1960. The duration of the course is one month and the participants are given both the practical training in the workshop as well as the theoretical training in the school).

THE INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE, AJMER—It was established in 1943 under War Technical Training Scheme. After the Second world war, the scheme was opened for the resettlement of the demobilised personnel under Director General of Resettlement and Employment, Ministry of Labour. In 1947, this scheme was renamed as Refugee Training Scheme. In 1951, the scheme was extended to adult civilians and the duration of the course was increased from 12 months to 18 months. In accordance with the recommendations of the Shiva Rao Committee, such institutions throughout India were handed over to the respective state Governments in October, 1956. At present, the Institute is imparting certificate courses in the following trades:—

1. Draughtsman (Mechanical)
2. Fitter
3. Lineman/Wireman
4. Instrument Mechanic
5. Sheetmetal worker
6. Blacksmith
7. Carpenter
8. Draughtsman (Civil)

9. Motor Mechanic
10. Turner
11. Moulder
12. Pattern maker
13. Welder

The duration of the training is two years, out of which 18 months' training is given at the Institute and during the remaining six months, the trainees have to receive inplant training in some engineering concern. In 1956, the institute offered training facilities to 160 candidates only. But gradually the capacity has been increased to 400. The total number of teachers in 1960-61 was 35. Thirty three per cent of the students are receiving stipends from the Government. The school provides hostel facilities for sixty students.

AJMER POLYTECHNIC—It was established in 1957 by the Government of Rajasthan with the help of the staff of the M.B.M. Engineering College, Jodhpur. The principal joined in 1958 while the regular staff joined later on. The first batch was admitted in July 1958 for a three year Diploma course in Civil Engineering. An entrance examination was conducted by the Director of Technical Education, Rajasthan upto 1960 for admission to Diploma Course. Now the admissions are made on the Merit basis. The school prepares students for Diploma courses in Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, and certificate course in Draughtsmanship. At present the institute admits 120 students, but, the proposed intake will be 800 at the end of the third plan. 60 per cent of the seats are reserved for candidates from Rajasthan, and for backward classes. A hostel has recently been constructed at a cost of Rs. 2,25,000 which accommodates 90 students. The total number of teachers in 1960-61 was 22.

POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL, KISHANGARH—It was established in 1949 at Chittorgarh but was shifted to Kishangarh in 1950. The main function of the school is to train police officers of the following categories:

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Indian Police Service (Probationers)
State Training Course | 3½ months duration. |
| 2. Rajasthan Police Service (Probationers) Initial Training Course | 1 year. |
| 3. Sub-Inspectors, direct and departmental candidates. Initial Training Course | 1 year |
| 4. Prosecution Sub-Inspectors Cadets
Initial Training Course. | 6 months |

5. Circle Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors
Refresher Course.

3 months

These officers are imparted training to make them fit for the rank they hold. Outdoor training includes parade, physical training, infantry training, rifle/revolver shooting, equitation, etc. Indoor training broadly comprises of lectures on various Indian and local laws, Constitution, Scientific aids, Investigation, Medical, Jurisprudence, Police practical work, Police regulations, general knowledge, finger print, and first aid etc.

Commercial Schools

There are several commercial schools in the district which impart training in shorthand, typewriting, telegraphy, sewing and embroidery etc.

There are seven schools in the district, which train people in shorthand and typewriting. But only one is recognised by the Government of Rajasthan. The Institute is known by the name, "All Languages Shorthand Institute" and is located on Kutchery Road, Ajmer. It was established in the year 1947. The school has been able to evolve a common system of Shorthand applicable to all languages. The proficiency Certificates awarded by the Institute have been approved by the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Uptill August, 1961, this Institute had awarded certificates to more than 600 persons. The Institute has a staff of four instructors.

For training in Telegraphy, there is only one institute in the district, which is located at Madar Gate Ajmer and is known as Rathore Telegraphy Training Institute.

The manufacturers of Usha Sewing Machine have opened several training centres in the district to train ladies in sewing and embroidery.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Schools for the Cultivation of Fine Arts

(i) Music—There is a Music College at Ajmer run by a private agency, where training in Indian music and dancing is imparted for Sangeet Nipun examination of the Madho Music College, Gwalior. An ad-hoc grant of Rs. 1,000 is granted to the college every year by the Rajasthan Government. A similar institution known as 'Kala Mandir'

has been functioning at Beawar. The Convent School, Ajmer imparts training in European Dancing and Music and is affiliated to the Trinity Music College of London.

(ii) DANCING—There is no separate school in the district except the Music College, Ajmer to impart training in dancing. However, it is an optional subject in Sophia Girls College, Ajmer and the Convent School, Ajmer.

(iii) PAINTING—There is no recognized institute in the district to impart this training. Some schools and colleges, however, offer this facility as an extra-curricular activity.

Oriental Institutions

There are three aided Sanskrit Pathshalas of middle standard at Ajmer, Beawar and Nasirabad. One unaided Sanskrit Pathshala exists at Pushkar. The total enrolment in these schools during the year 1960-61 was 423.

Schools for Handicapped

DEAF SCHOOL, AJMER—It was established in June 1961 by the Ajmer branch of the Indian Council of Child Welfare. The finances of the school are met by donations and subscriptions. The Governing Committee has eleven members. At present the school has 11 children of the ages between 5-15. There is one qualified teacher, who teaches the children by the *lip movement* method.

BLIND SCHOOL, AJMER—Started in the year 1935 by a group of enthusiastic social workers of Ajmer, this school was run with the help of donations till 1951, when the State Government took it over. Mrs. Manorma Tandon was the founder Secretary of the School. In the beginning, classes were held for teaching elementary Hindi, arithmetic, music and cane craft. At that time, the teaching staff consisted only of two teachers and one Headmaster. The Handicraft Department trains students in recaning of chairs, tray making, basket making etc., and the Music Department prepares students for various public examinations like Madhyama from Bhatkhande University Lucknow, and for Senior Diploma in Vocal and Instrumental Music from Prayag Sangit Samiti, Allahabad. The school sends students for High School examination every year as private candidates. None of them has failed so far. In 1960-61, a weaving section was also introduced for teaching weaving of carpets, napkins, vests etc. Extra-curricular activities are also provided. The school has a library containing 3,500 books (Braille

and Ink-print). The teaching staff consists of eight teachers and one Headmaster. In 1960-61, the number of students was 112.

Social Education

In 1950-51, the number of illiterates was 1,24,000 in the age group 12 to 45, out of which 1,00,000 were expected to benefit by the Social Education Scheme during the first Plan period. It was decided for the sake of economy to utilise the services of 300 Basic school teachers and 700 volunteers. These 1,000 workers were required to train 1,00,000 adults at the rate of 100 adults per worker. The Government provided an allowance of Rs. 10 per month per teacher and a bonus of Rs. 60 at the end of each year, provided their work was encouraging and satisfactory. In order to train teachers and volunteers for Social Education work, the Education Department organized several camps at different places. In 1953, all the teachers working in rural areas were asked to run social education centres. Instead of paying them extra allowances their working hours in the regular school routine were reduced and, they were asked to put in an hour's work in the social education centres in the evening. By now 1,43,546 adults have benefitted under this scheme. Social education centres have been provided in all the Secondary Schools of the district. The following agencies are also working in the field of Social Education:

1. Mayo College, Ajmer.
2. Traffic Office of the Western Railway.
3. Chandra Guru Shiksha Mandal, Beawar.

For the development of Social Education Programme, films are shown in the villages on educational and cultural topics by the audio-visual section of the Education Department. Village libraries have been set up and financial assistance is given to private and municipal libraries. Recreation centres have also been provided at certain places. In rural areas, social education is looked after by the Social Education Organizer. It involves a varied programme including adult education, social education and youth clubs, etc. There is one District Social Education Organizer to supervise their work. He works under the Deputy Director Social Education.

CULTURE

As early as in 4th century B.C., Barli and Pushkar had developed into centres of Buddhist culture. Later on Pushkar became a centre of Buddhism equal in importance to Gaya. The western satraps, and their allies Uttambhadras were great patrons of Sanskrit and this tradition seems to have been followed by Gurjara-Pratihara and Rajput

successors. The Chauhan period was productive of finest specimen of Hindu architecture and Sanskrit literature.

The finest architectural erection of Chauhan period was the Sanskrit College of Visaldev which was converted into a mosque by Muslim rulers about C. 1192. In the words of Cunningham, "for gorgeous prodigality of ornament, beautiful richness of tracery, delicate sharpness of finish, laborious accuracy of workmanship, endless variety of detail, all of which are due to the Hindu masons, this building may justly vie with the noblest buildings, which the world has yet produced." The building is described in greater detail in the last chapter.

Unfortunately after the fall of Chauhans the best Hindu masons migrated to the neighbouring states, with the result that so far as Ajmer is concerned, this artistic tradition came to an end.

Six tablets of polished basalt inscribed in Devanagari of twelfth century A.D. were found in 1875-76 A.D. in the precincts of this building. These have brought into light two plays written in Sanskrit and Prakrit during this period viz., 'Lalit Vighraharaja Nakata' composed by poet Somdeva and 'Harakeli Nataka' written by Vighraharaj himself which were perhaps completed in Vikram Samvat 1210. The Chauhan rulers III, had patronised several learned men. Prominent among them were¹:—Jayanak, a Kashmiri poet and the author of *Prithviraja vijaya*; Jinadatta Suri who wrote in Sanskrit Prakrit, and Apabhramsha with great ease and his three works—*Upadesarasavanasa*, *Charchari* and *Kalasvaru-pakulaka* show great vigour of expression; Jinapati Suri, the author of the *Prabodhavadas thala* and commentator of *Sanghapattaka* and *Panchalingi*; Jinapala Upadhyaya, writer of *Satsthapaka vritti*, *Sanatkumaracharita*, *Upadesharasayana-Vivarana*, *Dvadashakulaka vivarana*, *Pancchalingsi-vritti*, commentary on the *Charchari* and the *Kharatargachha-pattavalli*; and lastly Chand Bardai, the writer of *Prithvirajraso* which is a long poem about the exploits of his master, Prithviraj III.

After the downfall of Chauhans, Ajmer became an arena for the clash of powers contending for supremacy. Literary activity was mostly confined to Jain temples. Manuscripts kept in such temples are yet to be brought into light. The annual Urs of Dargah Sharif also inspired composition of qawwalis and qasidas in the praise of Hazrat Chishti.

1. Early Chauhan Dynasties by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma p. 269—272.

however, Kishangarh which came into existence as a separate State during the reign of Jahangir. It became a centre of Ballabh Sampradaya during the reign of Savant Singh who himself was a prolific composer and wrote under the pen name of Nagaridas. Though neither mentioned in 'Chaurasi Vaishnavon ki Varta' nor in 'Do so Vaishnavon ki Varta' his poems can compare favourably with those of most other poets of Ballabh Sampradaya for their felicity.

Kishangarh Paintings

The earliest available collection of Kishangarh paintings belong to the last decade of seventeenth century A.D. These are, in fact, portraits of the ruling princes under whose patronage the artists worked and spearing a black buck, belongs to this category. That this style when the tendency to elongate figures came into vogue. The portrait (dated 1964 A.D.) of prince Raj Singh depicting him on a horse back and spearing a black buck, belongs to this category. That this style continued in the early eighteenth century also, is evident from the portrait (c. 1725 A.D.) of Raja Sahasmal (ruled from 1615-1618 A.D.) with his falcons procured, perhaps during the day's hunting. It was perhaps the work of Bhawanidas, a known painter at the court at that time. The background shown in the picture depicts picturesque landscape, hillocks, lake and fortress. His countries who probably accompanied him during hunting are aligned on both sides. Colour semblance is a most striking feature here, whether it is seen in the dress and costumes or the trees and natural scenery.

However, the stereotyped themes i.e. portraying the court assembly scenes, hunting excursions or the individual portraits of the prince, adopted by the earlier artists, was abandoned in the thirties of the eighteenth century and theme of Krishna and his beloved Radha, caught the fancy of the artists, due perhaps to the strong religious inclination of their patron Savant Singh who was traditionally a follower of Vallabhacharya sect. Savant Singh (1699-1764 A.D.) was an accomplished prince, well versed in Sanskrit and Persian; an eminent poet who composed *Manoratha Manjari* (1723 A.D.), *Rasika Ratnavali* (1725 A.D.) and *Bihari Chandrika* (1731 A.D.) under the nom-de-plume of Nagari Das; and a painter of high order, whose brush was as elegant and effective as his poems.

The theme of Radha and Krishna was not unknown to the earlier artists but this prince as well as the court artist Nihal Chand were not content with its prevailing pictorial treatment. They sought to invigorate the style and this was accomplished through Bani Thani—

"The Bewitching Lady of Fashion," who was in the retinue of the *zanana* of his step mother Bankavatji. She was a singer and a musician and when Savant Singh chanced to meet her, he was staggered by her sublime beauty and fell deeply in love with her. She became, it is said, his inspiration and the artists translated this beauty on the canvas. "In her image they fashioned the divine Radha and every thing beautiful in womanhood. It seemed as if the distilled essence of all that the *Shringara* poets had sung, lay in this lovely creation. Thus, not only was a new female type created which became characteristic of all Kishangarh painting even during the 19th century, but a new approach to composition and colouring was also envisaged by Savant Singh and his atelier."

In the book 'Kishangarh Painting' published by the Lalit Kala Akademi, sixteen plates out of twenty selected by Eric Dickinson, the discoverer of this collection, have been reproduced. Of these, plates I and IX are decidedly the works of Nihal Chand though looking to the fineness of workmanship, plates II, III, IV, VII and XIII can also be ascribed to him. The first plate depicts a courtly paradise and the ninth illustrates the verses of *Bihari Chandrika* composed by Nagari Das. The scene is that of river Jamuna with marble palaces on its banks in Brindaban. The background is illustrated with thick groves of trees, hillocks and natural scenery. In the lower portion of this illustration the sections of the marble palaces peeping through the thick foliage of groves, present a beautiful contrast. In the paintings of this artist, three dimensional effect is clearly visible.

That the prince himself was an accomplished artist is evidenced by a sketch of a male drawn by him. The clarity of lines is most striking feature here. Sketches of eyes are also found in his diary which, perhaps, were adopted for depicting the eyes of Radha.

Nihal Chand's father Bhikchand is also said to have been a noted artist and at least two of Nihal Chand's descendants—Sita Ram and Badan Singh followed the same profession. Sita Ram was a competent painter and some paintings ascribed to him are in the palace collection. Amru and Surajmal painters were also in the atelier of Savant Singh. It must be noted that finest specimens of paintings were executed during 1735-57 A.D., the later year indicates the date of Savant Singh's abdication. The atelier continued to be in existence even after this but the later artists could never surpass the earlier paintings.

Another painter, contemporary to Nihal Chand, was Amarchand who painted plate X depicting¹ the moonlight music party (c. 1760-1766 A.D.). On the reverse of this miniature is a Hindi inscription while the names of those depicted in the paintings are written in gold against each of the figures, of whom two are more important—master artist Nihalchand who was allowed the privilege to sit before the Darbar and Mir Mahmud Umar, the *mutwali* (keeper) of the Ajmer *dargah*. It is said that this artist (Amarchand) received his earlier training at Delhi. His son Meghraj was also a noted painter. Other painters of the later eighteenth century were: Nanag Ram, Suraj Ram, Ramnath (a descendent of Nanag Ram), Joshi Saviram and Laddidas.

Some sort of atelier was maintained by the Kishangarh rulers in the early nineteenth century as is evidenced by the illustrations to the Govinda painted during the rule of Kalyan Singh (1798-1838) but the female facial type has changed somewhat in these illustrations and some stiffness has entered in these products. Perhaps after this period, the artists limited their work only to the portrait painting of their patrons.

Cultural Societies

The Mohammadan Professors and Scholars of Arabic had formed an Anjuman in Ajmer in 1916 after the name of their shrine "Anjuman Janyete Anware Khawaja" and in view of the objects to be achieved, ramified it into the following four branches.

1. Jamyete Anwar Muslhin (or party of Reformers).
2. Jamyete Anwar Musannafin (party of Editors).
3. Jamyete Anwar Muftiyin (party of Muftis).
4. Jamyete Anwar Mutakallamin (party of Orators).

OBJECT IN VIEW—(1) Party of Reformers was to educate the illiterate suburban Mohammadans in the precepts and ordinances of their sacred books and initiate them into the duties they owe to the almighty God, their prophet, their religion and the Government. (2) Party of Editors was to write out and publish books full of morals and religious matter of general utility in chaste and lucid style for educational purposes. (3) Party of Muftis was to issue *Fatvas* (in accordance with the Mohammadan Law) for the convenience of the litigants and judges of the courts here and elsewhere, under their hand and seal and solve the intricate religious and educational problems put to them. (4) Party of Orators was to remove scepticism entertained by any religion in

1. Kishangarh Painting Published by Lalit Kala Akademi Plate X.

regard to Islam by means of oral and written lectures and pamphlets with due regard to courtesy and civilization.

The function of the Head Anjuman "Anjuman Jammyete Anware Khwaja" were: (1) to keep out on the actions of the above four branches and direct them to the advisability of what is to be done in close conformity with the observances of loyalty and fidelity and would not allow them to interfere in the political matters whatever (2) to help the poor and helpless children and exert their utmost to devise means for the improvement of Darul Hamal Monia Usmania, and Arabic School in Ajmer.

GANDHI STUDY CIRCLE—This association was formed in 1952 to propagate the teaching of Mahatma Gandhi. The association maintains a small library where good reading material is available.

In addition to these, there are several other association set up for the propagation of their communities—Sindhies, Jains, Marwaris, etc.

Libraries

In addition to these, there are several other associations set up for rary in the district which is maintained by the Municipal Council. It is located on the Station Road. It was established in 1901 by the then Municipal Committee. It contains 17,507 books on all subjects. The library also subscribes 35 periodicals and newspapers. There are 3,441 members of the library and the average daily attendance is 250. The annual expenditure incurred is Rs. 21,000. Attached to the library is a section for children which contains 4,000 books and magazines of their interest. This section was opened in 1953. There are 800 members of this section. A lady incharge of games and books has been appointed by the Municipal Council.

Museum

MAYO COLLEGE MUSEUM—It was opened in January 1949 and contains many articles of historical and archæological interest which are described in the chapter on 'Places of Interest'.

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Early History

Before the introduction of European methods of treatment, the practice of medicine in this area was principally in the hands of four classes of medical men. The most numerous were the *vaid*s. These were mostly Hindu physicians who followed the ayurvedic system of medicine. They had achieved very great degree of skill in herbal remedies. Their knowledge and profession passed on from generation to generation. The *hakims* were Muslim physicians, who mainly belonged to the *unani* school of medicine. The third class was the *pansaris* or *attars* who were prescribing chemists and the fourth consisted of ascetics who claimed, by virtue of their great piety, to have power over diseases, which were believed to be controlled by evil spirits. Their methods lay in incantations and charms.

Surgery had, from ancient times, been largely in the hands of barbers, but *Jarrahs* or Muslim surgeons were also practising it in the 19th century. Operations for cataract and the removal of stone from the bladder were quite common. *Sattias*, a class of quack surgeons, undertook the cure of eye diseases. Amputations were generally performed by expert swordsmen and the stump immersed in boiling oil to prevent hæmorrhage.

Prominent *vaidyas* of the last century in the district, were Sri Ram Dayal Sharma, Sri Surya Kushal, Sri Birdhi Chand, and Sri Tulsi Dutt. These *vaidyas* mainly employed herbs and chemicals for the treatment of their patients. Boils were treated by applying *Singhi Mohra*. Small quantities of *Dhatura* were given to those suffering from cough. Syphilis was treated with mercury perchloride.

The first modern dispensary was opened in 1840 in the jail premises at Ajmer. The first dispensary for the general public was opened at Col. Dixon's initiative, in Ajmer on the 15th January, 1851. It had accommodation for 25 beds—twenty one for men and four for women. Four more dispensaries were opened at Kekri, Pisangan, Ramsar and Beawar in 1869. The sixth dispensary was opened at Todgarh in 1880 and the seventh in 1890, at Deolia.

A dispensary was running at Masuda between the years 1869 and 1890 but it was closed shortly after the opening of Deolia dispensary. The dispensary at Beawar was gradually raised to a full fledged hospital. A dispensary was opened at Srinagar but it was closed soon afterwards.

Dispensaries were opened at Nasirabad in 1916, at Kishangarh, in 1920, at Sarwar, in 1929 and at Saradhana, in 1950. A mobile dispensary was opened at Kekri in 1949. The dispensaries at Pushkar, Todgarh, Masuda, Bhinai, Kekri, Deoli, Ramsar, Sawar and Pisangan were maintained out of donations till 1944, when these were taken over by the Government.

The first Sanatorium in India was founded at Tilonia in Ajmer in 1906 under the methodist Mission. The Madar Sanatorium was founded in 1917. In 1939, both these Sanatoriums were merged, and named as 'Madar Union Sanatorium'.

In 1881, the average daily attendance of indoor and outdoor patients in the district, was 28 and 231 respectively. In 1891 there was a slight rise in the average of outdoor patients, the figures being 27 and 281 respectively for indoor and outdoor. In 1902 the daily average of both the classes of patients, rose to 49 and 414 respectively. The attendance gradually increased with the extension of medical facilities. In 1931, the daily average of indoor and outdoor patients was 145.32 and 1,183.25, in 1941 it was 183 and 2,000.26, in 1951 it was 235.83 and 2,231.27, and in 1960, 307.02 and 2,646.53 respectively.

Mr Watson writing in 1905 observed that "the hospitals and dispensaries are generally popular with the common people, but the well-to-do banias in towns still show some reluctance in availing themselves of the western methods of treatment, and the number of *vaid*s and *hakims* as well as of quacks of every description, is not inconsiderable. Shops are common in Ajmer where country drugs in crude or prepared forms are obtainable. In diseases requiring surgical interference, however, the dispensaries are more frequently resorted to though *jarrals* (native barber surgeons) and *sattias* (a class of quack surgeons who undertake the cure of eye diseases) are not rare". Preventive steps against epidemics, particularly during the Pushkar and Urs fairs, were taken as early as 1875 when arrangements were made for the first time, for inoculation and vaccination of pilgrims and to supply adequate quantities of pure drinking water. Check-posts were established outside the limits of the city where entrants were medically examined and refused entry if they were found suffering from any com-

municable disease. The sale of rotten food articles was checked. The districts suffered from epidemics of plague in 1905 and 1917 and of influenza in 1918.

The conservancy system in the towns, leaves much to be desired and is still unsatisfactory. The main reason being paucity of water.

GENERAL STANDARD OF HEALTH

Vital Statistics

The following table gives the decennial birth and death rate for the area per thousand:—

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate
1911	48.0	44.0
1911-20	38.9	47.7
1921-30	32.3	26.6
1931-40	38.0	30.2
1941-50	29.0	21.6
1951-60	21.45	8.89
1961	18.0	9.02

These figures do not include that of Kishangarh sub-division. Even if an area was under registration, reporting and recording of births and deaths was incomplete. The main reason for this was the illiteracy and rural character of the populace. The area under *Jagir* and *Istimrari* tenure was the worst in this respect, as there were no satisfactory arrangements for reporting and recording of the events. In rural areas births are, probably, recorded with greater accuracy than deaths while the converse is the case in urban areas. The entries of births are checked by the vaccinators, who perambulate the district. In rural areas the recorded birth rate is disproportionate to death rate as those settled in a city usually send their woman-folk to their village homes for child birth.

The table above shows that fertility has been high in Ajmer as only since 1941 has the birth rate dropped below 30. The figures of birth rates for Ajmer can be compared with those for India as a whole. In 1914 the birth for the country was 48.0 which came down to 25.8 in 1944. The corresponding figures for Ajmer for approximately the same years are 38.9 and 29. That shows that the variation in respect of Ajmer is not that great. Finally, both birth and death rates show a general decline though the later declines at a faster rate than the former.

Until 1932, in order to evade the problem of post-census population estimates, birth and death rates were calculated simply on the basis of population under registration at the last census. In other words, it kept the same population base, throughout the ten years, until the next census. This had the effect of artificially inflating the rates towards the end of each decade. This practice was, however, abandoned after the 1931 Census whereafter the mid-year population on the basis of natural increase began to be estimated.

.Registered birth and death rate figures in respect of Ajmer town only (rates per 1000 of mid-year estimated population) are available for the post-1953 period. These are given below:

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate
1954	20.2	8.5
1955	35.9	11.3
1956	21.7	8.2
1957	18.5	8.8
1958	19.7	8.5
1959	18.1	7.6
1960	16.7	7.0
1961	19.0	7.6

During the years 1960 and 1961 the total number of deaths registered were 3,220 and 3,242 respectively. The causes for deaths have been categorized as follows:

	1960	1961
Malaria	77	53
Other fevers	981	1,057
Respiratory diseases	480	408
Tuberculosis	112	144
Small-pox	33	61
Dysentary and Diarrhoea	161	173
Maternal deaths	83	30
Injuries and Suicides	22	37

	1960	1961
Other causes	1,271	1,285
Rabies	—	1
Snake bite	—	3
Cholera	—	1
TOTAL	3,220	3,242

Though not as fatal as tuberculosis and some other diseases, Malaria continues to be the most ubiquitous menace to life and health of the people. There are many other tropical diseases, which have a more rapid climax and physical results more visible than Malaria but there is no other disease which so saps the energy and undermines the economic powers of the people.

Some interesting facts about this disease were brought to light by a Survey of Ajmer City conducted in 1930¹. It revealed that this problem was almost entirely created by man as almost all the breeding grounds for mosquitoes were provided by the faulty drainage system of the city. The spleen index indicated that endemicity was moderate but was liable to become high during the years of excessive rainfall. Two species of anopheline mosquitoes, viz., *Stephensi* and *Culicifacies* were responsible for the spread of malaria in Ajmer.

Longevity

A sample survey conducted during the 1951 Census showed that 39.4 per cent of the population was under 15 years of age, 33.7 between 15 and 34 years, 18.9 between 35 and 54 years and only 8 per cent was above 55 years of age. In a population which is growing fast, it is necessary that the percentage of those under 15 years of age should be large. However, the big drop after 34 years suggests that the expectation of life is rather low. One of the main reasons is undoubtedly, the extremes of temperature and malnutrition. Life is extremely hard especially in the mountainous tract.

Common Diseases

The following table shows the total number of patients treated at the various hospitals and dispensaries of the district for the more common diseases during the year 1960:

I. A Malaria Survey of Ajmer City 1930 by Major Sydney Arthur Wilkinson and Mrs. W. D. Stubbs.

Dysentary and Diarrhoea	21,398
Malaria fevers	18,725
Rheumatism	38,144
Respiratory diseases	51,474
Diseases of eye	65,620
Skin diseases	6,238
Sex diseases	15,261
Injuries and wounds	77,848
Miscellaneous	3,35,245
TOTAL	6,29,953

The incidence of various common diseases on the population of the district could be shown by the number of persons that suffered from each of them per one thousand of population:

Diseases	Incidence of disease per one thousand of population (approx.)
1. Dysentary and Diarrhoea	22
2. Malaria fevers	19.2
3. Rheumatism	40
4. Respiratory diseases	52.7
5. Diseases of eyes	67.2
6. Skin diseases	6.6
7. Sex diseases	15.7
8. Injuries and wounds	80
9. Miscellaneous	343.3

Epidemics and dangerous diseases like cholera and plague seldom appear in this area, probably due to its extreme dryness. With the exception of miasmatic fevers after rains, there are no diseases which could be called endemic. Diseases of the skin of every variety, are common among the poor classes, opthalmia and allied diseases are also common. Many children die every year by measles owing to the general ignorance as to suitable treatment. Dysentary and Diarrhoea, respiratory diseases and rheumatism are also common among the people.

The following table shows the registered deaths caused by different diseases in the district for the year 1961:—

Deaths due to	Number
1. Small pox	61
2. Fever (Malaria and others)	1,110
3. Dysentary and Diarrhoea	173
4. Respiratory diseases	552
5. Injuries and suicides	37
6. Other causes	1,320
Total registered deaths	3,253

Two anti-malarial units with headquarters at Ajmer and Tonk have been operating in the district since 1956 under the National Malaria Eradication Programme. The Ajmer unit has under its jurisdiction, five tahsils (Ajmer, Arain, Beawar, Kishangarh and Rupangarh) of the district, while the rest two tahsils (Kekri and Sarwar) are under the Tonk Unit. During the year 1960, both the units conducted spleen survey in 61 villages of the district sprayed 53,627 houses and examined 9,347 persons. Malaria patients accounted for 3 per cent of the total number of patients in the allopathic hospitals and dispensaries and 5.6 per cent in ayurvedic dispensaries. During the year 1961, 58,706 blood smears of fever cases were collected for examination. The slides were examined and 251 cases were found positive for malaria. All the cases were given radical treatment. 2,27,121 houses were spread under this programme.

B.C.G. Vaccination was introduced in the district in April 1952. During the First Plan period, the unit was working under one medical officer and six vaccinators. A total number of 3,72,663 cases were tested, 84,899 vaccinated, and 2,77,063 re-vaccinated. During the Second Five Year Plan period, the number of Vaccinators was increased to twelve. This unit worked in two teams. They tested 2,02,295 cases, vaccinated 54,361 persons and re-vaccinated 1,38,511 persons.

Vaccination against small-pox was started in Ajmer-Merwara by Dr. Lord, the then Civil Surgeon, in 1853. At first, only two vaccinators were employed and the operations were performed at the dispensary. In 1866 house to house vaccination was started and in 1867, a Superintendent was appointed with four vaccinators paid by the gover-

nment and two paid by the Municipalities of Ajmer and Beawar. In 1886, the number of vaccinators was increased to 11 and subsequently, to 14 in 1900. The good results of vaccination are seen in the steady decrease in the number of the blind. Vaccination was made compulsory in Ajmer city since 1895, Kekri followed in 1901 and Beawar, in 1902. In recent years, an effort was made to protect the population against small pox and on an average, 20,000 vaccinations have been performed every year since 1935. In 1940, as many as 65,000 vaccinations were done.

In 1956, there were in all 19 vaccinators in the district; 11 in Ajmer, five in Beawar, and three in Kekri. In 1960, the number of vaccinators was increased to 25. The district is divided into 16 vaccination circles each under one vaccinator. Headquarters of eight of these circles are located at Panchayat Samitis headquarters, seven at that of the Primary Health Centres, and one at the district headquarters. All these vaccinators are under the technical control of the District Health Officer and the Sanitary Inspectors of the respective circles. On an average, 60 to 100 doses of small pox lymph are supplied weekly to every vaccinator. The vaccinators engaged by the Municipal Committees, work in their respective areas. The total number of vaccinations carried out in 1960 was 10,068 (6 647—Primary Vaccination and 3,421 re-vaccination)

Infirmities

According to the Census of 1951, the following number of persons were suffering from major infirmities:

Infirmity	Males	Females	Total
Blindness	1,091	1,206	2,297
Deaf-mutism	318	200	518
Insanity	162	118	280
Leprosy	99	61	160

There is no lunatic asylum in the district catering for the needs of the insane. There are, however, schools for the blind and the deaf at Ajmer and have been dealt with in detail, in the chapter on Education and Culture.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES

There are in all 37 hospitals in the district, 30 of which are public and seven private. Out of the 30 public hospitals, 11 are located in

urban areas—five at Ajmer, two at Kishangarh and one each at Beawar, Bijainagar, Kekri and Pushkar. The other 19 public hospitals are located in rural areas. Of the seven private hospitals, four are located at Ajmer, two at Nasirabad and one at Beawar.

Public Hospitals

VICTORIA HOSPITAL, AJMER—It developed from the dispensary constructed by public near Agra Gate in 1851 at a cost of Rs. 6,000 raised from subscriptions. It had indoor accommodation for 21 men and four women patients. For many years, this dispensary served the inhabitants of Ajmer and the surrounding states. To meet the increased demand for indoor accommodation, for operations and for general hospital work, a larger hospital was built near the Magazine in 1895. The cost of Rs. 43,250 was met by the sale of the dispensary building, aid from the Municipality and public donations. The new hospital, named as Victoria Hospital, had accommodation for 55 indoor patients (45 male and 10 female), 12 beds were exclusively reserved for the members of Ajmer police force in consideration of which Government contributed towards the cost of the building of the hospital from the savings it effected by closing the old police hospital. Increased population made expansion imperative and the present building in the Kaiser Bagh from the funds raised by public subscriptions and a grant-in-aid of Rs. one lakh from Government. Originally, there were 80 beds in the general wards and eight in the private ward. The bed strength of the hospital was increased from time to time and at present, the total number of beds is 437. In 1946 the hospital was taken over by the government. It has 10 wards. Treatment is free. The staff of the hospital consists of 39 doctors including five specialists, 78 compounders, 33 nurses and 13 mid-wives. Slowly, the hospital has added new facilities and at present, it has a Dental Clinic, T.B. Clinic, a Venereal Diseases Clinic, an Eye Department, an Anti-Rabic Centre, a Family Planning Centre, a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, a Small Pox Vaccination Centre, a Pathological Laboratory, an X-Ray Department, a Blood Bank, a Gynec Ward, an Orthopaedic Ward and an Isolation Ward.

JAIL HOSPITAL, AJMER—It was established about the year 1880. This hospital is meant only for Jail convicts, undertrials and the staff of the jail. It has no special equipment except that which is required to run a simple dispensary. There is one general ward in which there are eight beds. There is one Isolation Ward for infectious cases,

generally used for convicts suffering from tuberculosis. It has accommodation for two patients. Then five cells meant for lunatics are also attached to the hospital. There is a female reformatory which has one bed for sick patients. The total bed strength of the hospital is 10. The staff of the hospital consists of one doctor, two compounders and one mid-wife.

POLICE HOSPITAL, AJMER—It has a total bed strength of 45. The staff of the hospital consists of one doctor, one compounder and one male nurse.

MAYO COLLEGE, DISPENSARY, AJMER—Mayo College, Ajmer has a hospital catering mainly for the needs of its students. The hospital is under the charge of a Medical Officer who is assisted by two nurses and one compounder.

RAILWAY HOSPITAL, AJMER—This 69 bed hospital is exclusively for the railway employees. The staff consists of one highly qualified doctor incharge, 11 doctors, 20 nurses and eight compounders. Attached to the hospital is a 22 bed maternity home and a 10 bed Chest Clinic. Each of the above units, has a staff of two doctors and one nurse. In addition to these units, the Western Railway runs following four dispensaries in the city:—

1. Station Branch Dispensary.
2. GLO Branch Dispensary.
3. Loco First Aid Post
4. CRW First Aid Post.

All these units combined, treated a total of 16,134 patients during the year 1960-61.

YAGYA NARAIN HOSPITAL, KISHANGARH—Established by the State in 1920, it was gradually equipped with modern equipment and appliances. At present, it has an X-Ray unit, a Pathological Laboratory, and an operation theatre. The hospital also offers electric shock treatment. There are 50 beds in the hospital—25 in the male ward and 25 in the female ward. It has a sanctioned staff of three doctors, 10 compounders, one nurse and one midwife.

CITY DISPENSARY, KISHANGARH—The building was occupied by the general hospital till 1948 when it shifted to Madan Ganj. In 1956

a maternity ward was also started. The hospital now has beds for 16 indoor patients. It has a staff of two doctors, two compounders, two nurses and two midwives. It is also recognized for family planning work.

AMRIT KAUR HOSPITAL, BEAWAR—It was established in 1889. This hospital was previously known as Government Civil Hospital, Beawar. The foundation stone of the new hospital building was laid by Rajkumar Amrit Kaur, the then Union Health Minister of India on 3rd April, 1954 and thereafter, it came to be called as "Amrit Kaur Hospital, Beawar". The Hospital has dental clinic and the T.B. Clinic. The sanctioned strength of beds is 82. The staff consists of Junior specialists 2, Doctors 18 (including 3 doctors of T.B. Clinic), Assistant Matron 1, Dental Technician 1, T.B. Health visitors 4, T.B. Technician 2, T.B. X-Ray 1 and 107 other staff which includes Nurses, Compounders, U.D.C.s., L.D.C.s., Drivers and IV class servants. There is also a Family Planning Welfare Centre which consists of one Lady Doctor, one Lady Visitor and one IV class servant.

It has a pathological laboratory, Anti-rabic treatment centre, Family Plannig Clinic, two X-Ray Units and Operation Theatre.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, BIJAINAGAR—It was established in 1933 by the *Istimrardar* of Masuda. It was taken over by the Government in 1950. The hospital has been electrified in 1960. There are 25 beds in the hospital for the indoor patients—15 for the males and 10 for the females. The hospital has a general ward and a maternity ward. It has a sanctioned staff of two doctors, seven compounders and three midwives. A maternity and child welfare centre and a milk feeding centre are also attached to the hospital.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, KEKRI—Established in 1869 as a small dispensary, it was upgraded to a full fledged hospital during the Second Five Year Plan. This hospital has an operation theatre for minor operations and an X-Ray machine. There are two wards—one for the males and the other for females with a total bed strength of 20.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, PUSHKAR—It was established in 1942 with the donations of Seth Labh Chand. The total number of beds is 20, seven each being in the male and female wards and six in the maternity ward. The hospital has a staff of one doctor, four compounders and one midwife.

There are eleven general hospitals and eight Primary Health Centres in the rural areas. Each rural hospital has a staff of one doctor, one compounder and one midwife. The location of these hospitals and their bed strength is as follows:

Location		Beds
Gagwana	—	12
Govindgarh	—	4
Harmara	—	4
Jalia	—	4
Jethana	—	6
Kharwa	—	6
Ramsar	—	8
Saradhana	—	7
Sarwar	—	4
Sawar	—	8
Todgarh	—	12

Primary Health Centres

Primary Health Centres are located at the following places in the district:—

ARAIN—The centre has a bed strength of two. The staff consists of a doctor, a sanitary inspector, a compounder and a nurse dai.

BHINAI—The centre has a bed strength of six. The staff consists of a doctor, two compounders, four midwives, one sanitary inspector and one vaccinator. The centre is aided by UNICEF.

JAWAJA—The centre has a bed strength of six. The staff consists of a doctor, two compounders, five midwives, one lady health visitor, one sanitary inspector and one vaccinator.

KADERA—The centre has a bed strength of six. The staff consists of two doctors, three compounders, one sanitary inspector, two auxiliary health workers and four midwives. The centre is aided by UNICEF.

MASUDA—The centre has facility for nine indoor patients. The staff consists of two doctors, three compounders, one auxiliary health worker and four midwives. The centre is aided by UNICEF.

PISANGAN—The centre has facility for eight indoor patients. The staff of the centre consists of a doctor, four compounders, four midwives, one lady health visitor, one sanitary inspector and one vaccinator. The centre also is aided by UNICEF.

ROOPNAGAR—The centre has facility for two indoor patients. The staff of the centre consists of a doctor, four compounders and six midwives.

SRINAGAR—The centre has facility for six indoor patients. The staff consists of two doctors, six compounders, six midwives, one lady health visitor, one auxiliary health worker, one auxiliary nurse, two nurse dais and a vaccinator.

Dispensaries

Apart from the hospitals, five mobile dispensaries are also operating in the district with headquarters at Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri, Masuda and Pisangan. Each of these dispensaries has a staff of one doctor and a compounder.

Private Hospitals

There are seven private hospitals in the district. They are:—

MADAR UNION SANITORIUM, AJMER—The Mary Wilson T.B. Sanatorium, established by the American Methodist Mission in 1906, was first of its kind in India. Later, it was amalgamated with the Mary Union Sanatorium, Madar, Ajmer. There were very few patients in the beginning but later on, patients began to come from all parts of India and even from foreign countries. The Sanatorium consists of 12 general wards and 25 cottages and semi-private rooms. There is a big surgical block and attached to it, is a most modern post-operative block. There are two operation theatres equipped with most modern surgical instruments. The Sanatorium has three X-Ray plants. It employs experts and specially trained nurses in the field of tuberculosis and most of the doctors are foreign trained. Lung resectional surgery (pneumectomy, lobectomy, segmental etc.) and cardiac surgery are undertaken. Thoracoplasty resection of lung for removal of diseased parts, is being undertaken frequently as it has been found to be a quicker method of treatment. Modern diagnostic facilities such as X-Ray, bronchoscopy, branchography, tomography and fluoroscopy are also provided. Apart from old line of treatment of A.P., P.P., modern drugs such as streptomycin, PAS, INAH and Viomycin are given according to the type of disease.

The staff of the hospital consists of eight doctors, 20 nurses, 25 nurses' aids and helpers. In all, there are 200 employees for this 350 bedded institution. The total number of indoor patients treated during the last six years is as follows:

1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
379	341	363	331	538	721

WOMEN'S MISSION HOSPITAL, AJMER—It was opened by the Foreign Women's Mission of the Church of Scotland in 1896 within the city walls and was shifted to its present site in the year 1916. From the very beginning, it had an indoor department with 40 beds as also an outdoor department. A male hospital was also attached to it. The treatment was free. The total bed strength of the hospital now is 100 with 80 in the general ward and 20 in the private wards. The staff of the hospital consists of four doctors, two compounders and 35 nurses. The total number of patients treated was 13,367 in 1956 and 14,250 in 1960. The hospital also runs a training school for nurses.

KASTUR MUNICIPAL DISPENSARY, AJMER—It was established by the municipality as a small dispensary in 1953 with one compounder only. But slowly it has developed and at present, a big building is under construction to house the clinic. It is run by the Ajmer Municipal Council and the annual expenditure comes to about Rs. 1,12,000. It has a staff of two male doctors, one lady doctor, one radiologist, one ophthalmist, nine compounders, four ward boys and two nurses.

ST. FRANCIS NURSING HOME, AJMER—It was established in 1936 by the Missionaries. The bed strength of the nursing home is 80 and the staff consists of three doctors, five compounders, eight nurses and two midwives.

CONTONMENT GENERAL HOSPITAL, NASIRABAD—It was established in 1916 for the troops. At present the hospital has three wards—male ward, female ward and infectious ward with the facility of eight beds each and is well equipped for minor operations. The total bed strength is 24. The staff of the hospital consists of two doctors, two compounders, one nurse, and two dressers. The hospital treated 4,732 patients in 1956 and 53,622 in 1960.

WOMEN'S MISSION HOSPITAL, NASIRABAD—It was established in 1878 by the Church of Scotland Mission for the treatment of women. Training classes in midwifery were started in 1916. This institution was affiliated to Rajasthan Church Council in 1960. A male ward and

an Auxiliary Nurse Midwife's training centre were opened in 1961. The hospital is equipped for major and minor surgery and for normal and abnormal obstetrics. There is an out-patient dispensary, operation theatre, minor operation room, and two labour rooms. There are five wards and nine private rooms. The total bed strength of the hospital is 60-45 beds for women and children, six for men, and nine private beds. Accommodation is free except in the private rooms. Medicines and laboratory testing have to be paid for but these are also provided free to patients who cannot afford to pay. Operations and deliveries are also charged for. The staff of the hospital consists of three doctors, one sister tutor, three staff nurses, eight nurse-dais and 10 nurse-in-training. The hospital is recognized by the Government of Rajasthan for the treatment of Government servants and their dependants. The total number of patients treated in 1956 was 18,471 and in 1960 it was 17,374.

SHRIMATI SETHANI GANGABAI MATERNITY HOME, BEAWAR—The home was established in 1929 by Seth Vithaldasji Rathi who created a trust in the name of his mother Shrimati Sethani Ganga Baiji. The recurring and non-recurring expenses of the home are met from the trust funds. The maternity home attends to labour cases free of charge. It also runs a dispensary for females and children upto the age of six years. It has a spacious and airy building for indoor patients.

OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres

There are following seven public maternity and child welfare centres in the district:

1. M.C.W.C. No. 1 Ajmer.
2. M.C.W.C. No. 2 Ajmer.
3. M.C.W.C. No. 3 Ajmer.
4. King George V Memorial Maternity Home, Ajmer.
5. M.C.W.C. Beawar (Red Cross).
6. M.C.W.C. Kekri.
7. M.C.W.C. Bijainagar.

Nine Family Planning Centres have been set up by the Government at various places in the district. Four of these are located at Ajmer and one each at Beawar, Bijainagar, Kekri, Kishangarh and Srinagar. The Srinagar centre is working under the control of the local

panchayat samiti. The oldest of these centres is the one attached to Victoria Hospital Ajmer opened in the year 1953. Each of these centres is run by a qualified doctor and Lady Health Visitor.

These centres have been set up to popularize the idea of family planning, and also to distribute free contraceptives to poor people. During the year 1960, 1,136 cases were contacted by these centres and 223 operations performed.

A few family planning centres are run by private agencies also. They are:—

1. Madar Union Sanatorium, Ajmer.
2. Kasturba Clinic, Ajmer.
3. Ingersoll Clinic (the Domes) Ajmer.
4. Madar Sanatorium Mobile Unit.
5. Lungia Hospital, Ajmer.
6. Mission Hospital, Nasirabad.

These clinics have also formed an Association with Dr.(Mrs.) Marain B. Hall of Ingersoll Clinic as General Secretary. Apart from the usual propaganda, the Ingersoll Clinic is also conducting research over the utility percentage of various contraceptives. A recent research by the clinic on Foam Tablets revealed that the pregnancy rate is 37.9 per cent as compared to the accepted rate of 70 per cent when no contraceptive is used.

All the government hospitals and dispensaries of the district are under the administrative control of Principal Medical and Health Officer, Ajmer.

The following table shows the number of indoor patients and outdoor patients treated in various government allopathic hospitals and dispensaries of the district during two selected years:—

Year	Indoor patients	Outdoor patients
1956	8,692	4,29,094
1960	18,334	6,11,119

In 1960, the latest year for which figures are available, the daily average outdoor attendance at all these hospitals and dispensaries was 2,646.53.

The total number of patients treated in all private allopathic hospitals and dispensaries during the year 1960, was 7,41,312.

INDIGENOUS SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

In 1946, the State of Ajmer extended Government patronage to Ayurvedic System of medicine, and *aushdhalayas* were opened at Sampla, Dasuk, Karkeri, Bhidun and Kuchil. Gradually, the number increased and at the end of the year 1960, there were 55 *aushadhalayas* in the district. Each *aushdhalaya* is in the charge of a qualified Vaidya who, in most of the cases, has a compounder to assist him. There is one 'A' class *aushadhalaya* at Ajmer which has a staff of four Vaidyas, five compounders and three nurses. The other *aushadhalayas* are under a *vaid* each. The work of the *aushdhalayas* is supervised by the Ayurvedic Inspector stationed at Ajmer. The location of these institutions and the number of patients treated in each in 1960-61, is given below:—

Location	Patients treated in 1960-61
1. Ajmer 'A' Class	5,85,975
2. Ajmer 'B' Class	57,905
3. Ajmer 'C' Class	6,634
4. Karkeri 'B'	22,393
5. Madanganj 'C'	56,700
6. Dadia 'C'	10,893
7. Dasuk 'C'	8,352
8. Bhidunn 'C'	16,201
9. Bandarsindari 'C'	8,201
10. Sampla 'C'	11,854
11. Sawar 'C'	20,109
12. Kuchil 'C'	17,732
13. Shivpura Ghat 'C'	10,186
14. Borada 'C'	5,634
15. Sironj 'C'	7,415
16. Ralawta 'C'	6,303
17. Silora 'C'	6,608
18. Deoliakalan 'C'	11,809
19. Peecholia 'C'	8,031
20. Nand 'C'	6,509
21. Bandanwara 'C'	14,719
22. Chapānceri 'C'	4,901
23. Barakhan 'C'	3,969
24. Fatehgarh 'C'	9,897
25. Ramgarh 'C'	7,844

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medical practitioners, 387 vaidyas, 91 midwives, 352 compounders and 68 nurses in the district. The position regarding availability of medical facilities in the district is very satisfactory. In 1961, the various categories of personnel engaged in the Health Services—public and private, will be found as under:—

	Male	Female
1. Physician and Surgeons (Alopathetic)	329	21
2. Physicians Ayurvedic	251	4
3. Physicians Heomopathic	6	1
4. Physicians others	12	3
5. Physiologist	1	—
6. Dentists	5	—
7. Physicians, Surgeons, Dentists not classified	7	6
8. Pharmists and other medical and Health Technicians	1,056	552
9. Nurses	101	298
10. Midwives and Health Visitors	132	111
11. Nursing attendants and related workers	88	23
12. Pharmaists and Pharmitical Technicians	461	11
13. Vaccinators	21	2
14. Sanitation Technicians	207	83
15. Medical & Health Technicians unclassified	46	24

The percentage of doctors to total population is about 1:1,000. Medical institutions are well spread over the whole area of the district. Out of the 30 Allopathic public hospitals, 19 are in the rural areas. Five mobile vans are working with the dispensaries to provide medical facilities to remote places. Again, 50 of the 58 ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries are located in rural areas. Every effort is being made to extend medical facilities further.

Training and Research Centres

There is no medical and public health research centre in the district. There are four centres for training of nurses, dais and midwives. The Kaiserganj centre was established in April 1903 by a Committee of the Victoria Memorial Scholarship Fund for training dais. The other training institutions are: Victoria Hospital, Ajmer, Mission Hospital Ajmer and Mission Hospital, Nasirabad.

Sanitation

The primary function of the municipalities is the maintenance of proper sanitary conditions in the areas under their jurisdiction. The

district has six municipalities at Ajmer, Beawar, Kekri, Pushkar, Kishangarh and Sarwar. They employ sanitary staff like *Jamadars*, *darogas*, *bhishties* and sweepers. One of the major problems of these municipalities is that of disposal of sullage. In most of the towns, it is dumped in the pits outside the town.

This problem is more acute in case of Ajmer city due its large population. Various schemes regarding the disposal of sullage were proposed, and a few of them worked upon, but none proved completely satisfactory till the present system of mechanised removal of night soil was introduced in 1954 which is working quite satisfactorily. Further details of the sanitary arrangements in urban areas of the district, are given in the chapter on Local Self Government.

In the rural areas, steps have been taken to improve sanitation under the Panchayat Samitis, which employ sanitary Inspectors, Watermen and sweepers. Recently these Samitis have undertaken construction of sanitary latrines, drains smokeless *chulahs*, etc.

Slum Clearance

In Ajmer city, slums exist at the following places Gujar-ki-Dharti, Udaiganj, Rabaria, Old Judugar, Darvi Para, Noonkaran Hata, Masudanari. Efforts are being made to improve these areas. Drains are being constructed to carry sullage water.

Water Supply

Piped water supply is available at Ajmer, Beawar, Kishangarh, Kekri and Nasirabad. The water at Ajmer is chlorinated and filtered. but at other places, the water is only filtered. Elsewhere, steps have been taken to improve water supply by disinfecting wells and in some cases, by covering them. However, in a very large number of villages, people fulfil their water requirements from ponds or wells. The usual procedure is to collect water from the pond or well in a pitcher and allow it to stand for some time so that the dust particles may settle down. The situation is, however, improving. Special attention is being paid to the water supply schemes under the development programme. Arrangements for supply of pure water are made during the fairs and festivals. Details of these schemes would be found in another chapter.

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

Labour Welfare

There are more than 250 industrial establishments in the district employing well over 60,000 labourers. However, the Indian Factories Act of 1948 covers only 17,615 labourers in the 118 establishments which are registered. Application of various other labour laws, relating to minimum wages, maternity benefits, industrial disputes, workman's compensation, insurance, provident fund etc. is confined to eligible workers in these 118 establishments.

There is considerable scope for extending labour legislation to other establishments and for ensuring effective implementation of various provisions of these laws in the establishment already covered by such legislation.

At best, most of the private employers provide the minimum facilities prescribed by law. A few bigger establishments provide some facilities like bonus and medical attendance etc.

STATE LABOUR WELFARE ACTIVITIES—Since 1944 a labour officer has been posted at Ajmer to supervise the labour welfare activities organised through the labour department. After 1950, four labour centres have been opened in the district viz., Kekri (1950), Beawar (1956), Bijainagar (1956) and Ajmer (1957). The Kekri and Bijainagar centres are supervised by a single labour inspector who has to perform some headquarters duties also. For supervision at each of the remaining two centres there is one inspector. The staff at the headquarters consists of one U.D.C., five L.D.Cs. and five class IV servants. The staff provided at various labour welfare centres is as follows:—

AJMER—One labour inspector, one game supervisor-cum-L.D.C., one lady tailor, one lady supervisor, one adult education teacher for men and four class IV servants.

BEAWAR—The same as for the Ajmer centre.

KEKRI—One game supervisor-cum-L.D.C., one lady supervisor, one part time adult education teacher and one class IV servant.

BIJAINAGAR—One game supervisor and one class IV servant.

It is expected that very soon a labour welfare centre would be started at Kishangarh. Separate shifts for men and women are held. Occupational training in tailoring is being provided to the women labourers at Ajmer and Beawar. Recreational activities like dramas and film shows are also organised. Adult-education classes are run to spread literacy among the labourers. The figures of average daily attendance in the centres for the last two years given below shows that these centres are gaining popularity.

Year	Name of the labour centre			
	Ajmer	Beawar	Kekri	Bijainagar
1959-60	211	48	87	35
1960-61	221	118	117	64

The following statement shows the achievements of these centres during the period from 1951-54 to 1960-61:—

S. No.	Item	Particulars			
		1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
1.	Labour Welfare Centres	4	4	4	4
2.	Adults educated: (a) Male	3,757	5,942	12,392	10,297
	(b) Female	420	3,392	5,578	8,318
3.	Children educated	2,147	11,455	23,737	28,384
4.	Recreation Centres	4	4	4	5
5.	Radio sets	4	4	4	4
6.	Free distribution of powder milk				
	(i) No. of children benefited	11,097	18,190	40,998	57,266
	(ii) Milk distributed (in pounds)	1,025	899	1,914	2,201
7.	Film shows arranged	6	4	4	6
8.	Labour benefitted	32,244	78,595	1,24,374	1,01,089
9.	Children benefitted	18,670	57,341	1,20,918	1,10,013

PROHIBITION—Apart from drinking in public, there is no restriction on the consumption of liquor. There are 12 shops in the area selling foreign type of wines and spirits; a total of 136 shops sell country

liquor. There are also 5 licenced shops for the sale of opium and 27 shops for the sale of *Bhang*. The following table shows the extent of the consumption of intoxicants in the district from 1956-57 to 1960-61:—

(Figures in Maunds, seers)

Year	Indian made foreign liquor in gallons of L. P.	Country liquor in gallons of L. P.	Opium	Bhang	Ganja
1956-57	10,148	78,506	17-12	161-20	2.24
1957-58	7,238	1,33,999	9-6	137-34	2.18
1958-59	9,951	1,15,152	6-33	156-36	2.3
1959-60	11,990	1,12,023	0-35	182-27	—
1960-61	9,437	1,14,247	0-22	199-2	—

2

The consumption of Indian made foreign liquor and country liquor has remained more or less steady. The consumption of opium has dwindled considerably because of severe restrictions on its sale. The use of *Ganja* and *Charas* has been prohibited. Because of restriction on the sale of opium and other drugs, there is a black market in these commodities, though fortunately, not on a large scale. It has also not been possible to check completely the illicit distillation of liquor.

DISTILLERY—The only distillery in the district is located at Ajmer. It is known as 'Ganganagar Sugar Mills Limited, Ram Ganj Distillery'. It was established half a century ago and was owned by Messrs Bala Bux Amarchand till April, 1957, when it was taken over by the State Government. In 1960-61, 176,478 Bulk Gallons of country liquor was produced by the factory. Varieties produced are Rose, Orange, Kesar-kastoori and Jagmohan.

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT—Social Welfare activities among backward classes are being organized by the Social Welfare Department. The total population of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the district, is 1,75,029 and 15,507 respectively.

The following communities of Scheduled tribes, Scheduled castes and other backward classes are residing in the district:

(A) *Scheduled Tribes*

- | | |
|---------|--------------|
| 1. Bhil | 2. Bhil Mina |
|---------|--------------|

(B) *Scheduled Castes*

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Aheri | 20. Kabirpanthi |
| 2. Bagri | 21. Kalbelia |
| 3. Balai | 22. Khangar |
| 4. Bambhi | 23. Khatik |
| 5. Bansphod | 24. Koli |
| 6. Baori | 25. Koria |
| 7. Bargi | 26. Kuchband |
| 8. Bazigar | 27. Mahar |
| 9. Bhangi | 28. Meghwal |
| 10. Bidakia | 29. Nat |
| 11. Chamar, Jatava, Mochi or
Raigar | 30. Pasi |
| 12. Dabgar | 31. Rawal |
| 13. Dhanak | 32. Sarbhangi |
| 14. Dhed | 33. Sargara |
| 15. Dhobi | 34. Satia |
| 16. Dholi | 35. Thori |
| 17. Dom | 36. Tirgar |
| 18. Garoda | 37. Kanjar |
| 19. Gancha | 38. Sarsi |

(C) *Other Backward Classes*

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| 1. Aheer | 10. Khati |
| 2. Bangare | 11. Kumbhar |
| 3. Cheeta | 12. Lodha |
| 4. Daroga | 13. Lohar |
| 5. Dhakad | 14. Mali |
| 6. Gadolia | 15. Merat |
| 7. Gujar | 16. Mena |
| 8. Jat | 17. Nai |
| 9. Kahar | 18. Nayar |

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 19. Rawat | 23. Scheduled Castes who have |
| 20. Rebhari | embraced Christian reli- |
| 21. Sadhu | gion. |
| 22. Teli | |

WELFARE ACTIVITIES—The following activities are organised by the Social Welfare Department:—The mobile film unit of the department shows documentary films in the villages. Six Sanskar Kendras are being run to impart social education and vocational training. One adult-night school-cum-social education centre is also functioning at Kishangarh. Three student hostels are being run by the department the details of which are given below: (1) Scheduled Caste hostel at Ajmer with a sanctioned strength of 50 students (2) Scheduled Tribes hostel at Masuda with a sanctioned strength of 25 students, and (3) Denotified Tribes hostel at Ajmer with a sanctioned strength of 25 students. These hostels provide free boarding and lodging. Clothing is also supplied to the needy. No tuition fee is charged from the boys of these classes. Allowances for educational tours are also given to students when recommended by the head of the institutes. Provision has recently been made for admitting in the hostels 25 per cent of their authorised capacity, students of other communities, in order to eradicate untouchability.

A school for tribal children is run at Bogla (Kekri tahsil). It is based on ancient *ashram* system. The school provides free boarding and lodging facilities to the tribal children. The sanctioned strength of Ramganj Shelter Home and the After Care Home for ladies is 30 and 100 respectively. Both of these homes provide for the after care of socially handicapped e.g., released criminals. Boys' clubs are also organized for the benefit of juvenile delinquents. Welfare Officer, Prisons was appointed by the department in 1959-60 to organize welfare services in prisons. He helps prisoners in solving their problems particularly those relating to family relations and rehabilitation.

The Department also gives financial aid to the following voluntary agencies working for the welfare of these classes:—

1. Dayanand Anathalaya
2. Harijan Refugee Panchayat
3. Sansi Sudhar Sabha
4. Lok-Kala Mandal
5. Adivasi Sudhar Sabha

6. Bharat Sevak Samaj
7. Mahila Shiksha Sadan Hatundi.

The following statement shows the number of persons assisted by the department during the last four years:—

Category of aid	No. of persons benefitted
1. Scholarships	7,776
2. For purchase of bullocks	635
3. For purchase of cows	9
4. For house building	1,030
5. For Cottage Industry	82
6. For digging wells	305
7. For Boarding Houses	85
8. For purchase of sewing machine to widows	54
9. To voluntary agencies	7
10. For medical treatment of tuberculosis	24

Social Welfare Board

After Independence, a Social Welfare Advisory Board was set up at Ajmer. Four Welfare Extension Projects were started at (i) Srinagar (ii) Ramsar (iii) Jawaja, and (iv) Kekri, comprising 16 centres. These Projects were inaugurated between 1955 and 1956. The Centres were as given below:—

- I. SRINAGAR—1. Kanpura 2. Beer 3. Untra 4. Gagwana 5. Muhami.
- II. RAMSAR—1. Ramsar 2. Dabrela 3. Derathu 4. Rajgarh
5. Nandla.
- III. JAWAJA—1. Jawaja 2. Kabra 3. Jalia 4. Sikhrani.
- IV. KEKRI—1. Baghera 2. Bogla.

The Rajasthan State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Jaipur took over the social welfare activities of Ajmer District in December, 1956. A District Project Implementing Committee of 11 members, with Rani Urmila Devi of Masuda as Chairman, formed in the beginning of 1957, was given full charge of the social welfare work in Ajmer District. The Project covers an area of sixty villages with a population of 59,496 persons. The field staff consists of 18 women village level workers (Gram Sevikas), eight craft instructoresses (Udyog Shikshika)

ten Dais and four midwives, and one supervisor (*Mukhya Sevika*). Each unit has a children's park, craft centre, social education centre and a health centre. Cultural performances are also organized.

There are four welfare Extension Projects (during the year 1960-61) taken by the Social Welfare Board, namely; Kekri, Jawaja, Ramsar and Srinagar. These Projects are, in all, maintaining 18 Social Welfare centres, which run *Balwaries*, Social Education Centres, Craft-classes, Health Centres and also stage cultural shows. Daily average attendance of *Balwaries* was 45 children; at Craft and Social Education Centres it was 25 and 35 persons (both male and female) respectively, at Cultural shows 47 persons; and the benefits of the health services were availed on an average by 48 persons.

The expenditure incurred by the Board on the Schemes run by the Board itself was:—

Year	Amount in rupees.
1957-58	— 64,584.06
1958-59	— 75,440.23
1959-60	— 73,322.02
1960 upto (30.9.1960)	— 34,045.40

Since 1st April, 1961, all welfare extension Projects have been taken over by the *Rajasthan Samaj Kalyan Sangh*, a newly founded voluntary social welfare organisation, which gets 70 per cent grant in aid from Central Social Welfare Board.

The Board also gives grants in aid under certain conditions to the various social welfare institutions and organisations. Upto 1960-61, it had sanctioned a total amount of Rs. 1,22,500 to voluntary social welfare institutions and organisations.

The grants in aid were timely because after the abolition of princely states and *jagirdaris*, the voluntary local welfare organisations had been deprived of the usual contributions made by princes and *jagirdars*. The activities of these organisations would have otherwise suffered.

The following table shows the grant of aid given to various institutions.

S. No.	Name and addresses of the institutions	Year of grants	Amounts sanctioned	Purpose for which the grant was sanctioned
1.	Shishu Shiksha Sadan, Kachahari Road, Ajmer.	1958-59	1,500/-	Purchase of montessori equipment & part of the salary of trained teacher.
2.	Shishu Kunj, Shrinagar Road, Ajmer.	1958-59 1960-61	1,500/- 1,500/-	... .. Part of the salary of Balwadi teacher, Balwadi equipment and recreational material for children.
3.	Gujarati Mahamandal, Hathibata, Ajmer.	1958-59	1,000/-	For purchase of equipment and recreational material.
4.	Seewan Kala Vidhyalaya, Naya Bazar, Ajmer.	1955-56 1958-59	2,500/- 2,500/-	Purchase of equipment and part salary of a teacher. For expansion of Handicraft. Part of the salary of Craft Teacher and raw material.
5.	Indra Gandhi Narishala, Pahar Gunj. Ajmer.	1956-57 1958-59 1959-60	1,000/- 1,500/- 2,000/-	Part of the salary of Craft instructor and craft material, purchase of craft equipment. For expansion of handicraft section.
6.	Yateem Khana, Moinia Islamia, Dargah Bazar, Ajmer.	1956-57 1958-59 1960-61	500/- 3,000/- 4,000/-	.. .. To admit 10 more orphans, improvement in the quality of services. To admit 8 more orphans.

S. No.	Name and address of the institutions	Year of grants	Amounts sanctioned	Purpose for which the grant was sanctioned
7.	Vimuktajati Sudhar Sabha, Kishan Ganj, Chandivadi, Sansi Colony, Ajmer.	1959-60	3,000/-	Adult education for women, recreational material for women and children.
8.	Gramesewa Mandal, Ajmer.	Plan Period	10,000/-	For starting a vocational training centre. (Khadhi).
9.	Mahila Shishu Mandal, Nasirabad.	1955-56 Plan Period	1,080/- 5,000/-	... ...
10.	Dayananda Orphanage, Ajmer.	Plan Period	3,500/-	To admit more orphans, for training and expansion of craft training centre.
11.	Ram Krishan Mission, Ajmer.	Plan Period.	3,000/-	For library 500/- p. m. for distribution of medicines to poor patients.
12.	Madar Union Sanatorium Madar, Ajmer.	1954-55 1955-56	2,500/- 1,000/-	... ...
13.	Sardar Balmandir, Ajmer.	1955-56 1956-57	1,000/- 3,000/-	Pay, ground equipment, purchase of montessori equipments books for children.
14.	Bharat Sewak Samaj, Ajmer.	1956-57	2,000/-	For running three creches.

S. No.	Name and addresses of the institutions	Year of grants	Amount sanctioned	Purchase for which the grant was sanctioned
15.	K. D. Jain High School, Kishangarh, Ajmer.	1956-57	1,000/-	For montessori equipment and children's park equipment.
		1959-60	1,500/-	Play material for children.
16.	Prabhat Netra Sewa Sadan, Kishangarh, Ajmer.	1959-61	5,000/-	For free distribution of medicines and diet to poor patients.
17.	Harijan Sewak Sangh, Ajmer.	1959-61	2,500/-	For starting creche at Ajmer.
18.	Rajasthan Balkanji Bari, Diggi Chowk, Ajmer.	1960-61	1,000/-	For Children's library & recreational material.
19.	Jain Aushdhalaya, Ajmer.	1960-61	1,200/-	For free maternity services and for starting a clinic.
20.	Agarwal Audyogik Prasikshan Kendra, Beawar.	1960-61	3,000/-	...
21.	Kanta Charitable Dispensary, Ashi Ganj, Ajmer.	1960-61	1,800/-	Free distribution of medicines to children and women.

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND OTHER VOLUNTARY SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS

Political Movement

The strategic situation of Ajmer made it a town coveted by all the powers aspiring for an Empire in India. It has been noticed that during the Mughal period it almost rivalled Delhi as a centre of political activity and as a base for military campaigns. Later, it served Marathas as a foot-hold in Rajasthan. The British also recognised its importance and retained it as a directly administered district in the centre of the States of Rajputana.

The part played by Ajmer in the war of 1857-58 has already been noted. Thereafter, a period of lull set in. For the *Istimarardars*, traders and propertied classes of Ajmer, British rule brought the much needed peace, stability and freedom from the exactions of Marathas and Pindaris. Enthusiastic administrators like Dixon brought about improvements in agriculture, irrigation and land management which ameliorated the condition of the farmers to some extent.

However, the period of enchantment did not last long. Some people found out that the rule was inherently favourable to the privileged classes—the pillars and the stars of the Empire. Introduction of modern education and the railway link brought the wind of change. The activities of *Arya-Samaj* brought an urge for social reform as well as national struggle.

One of the most prominent leaders of pre-Gandhian era was Shyamji Krishna Verma, a follower of Bal Ganga Dhar Tilak. Hailing from Kathiawar and educated at Oxford, he advocated *Poorna Swarajya* or complete independence. According to Har Bilas Sarda "He was neither afraid of the Britishers in India nor did he show undue respect to them". Exiled from India for his Anti-British activities, he settled down at London shortly after Rand murder in 1897. In January 1905, he started the India Home Rule Society with himself as its President at his London India House from which he also published the *Indian Sociologist*, a monthly magazine of the Society. He also announced the award instituted a number of scholarships for Indian scholars to enable them to visit some foreign countries and acquire knowledge of their freedom movements. He soon became the moving

spirit of the movement and his book *The Indian War of Independence—1857* was given wide publicity. Shri Madan Lal Dhingra, of 'Wyllic murder fame' was one of his proteges.

Political consciousness came to Ajmer before any other area in Rajasthan because it was a directly administered area surrounded on all sides by the native states. The part played by the local troops in the war of 1857-58 has already been described in the chapter on History.

The name of Rao Gopal Singh Kharwa is well known for his freedom movement activities. After Kharwa's arrest and conviction, Shri Ras Behari Bose deputed Shri Bhoop Singh to continue his work. Bhoop Singh was famous by the name of Bijai Singh Pathik, the hero of Bijolia movement where he successfully organised the Kisan Satyagrah. Shri Pathik with a body of selfless workers like Shri Ram Narain Choudhry, Shri Manikya Lal Verma, Shri Haribhau Upadhyaya of Rajasthan Sewa Sangh, dominated the popular scene in Rajasthan during the years of 1918 to 1928. They fought for the country's freedom and the welfare of the masses.

The work and qualities of Pathik were appalauded by Gandhiji in the following words in 1921, "Pathik is a worker, others are talkers. He is brave, good and impetuous but obstinate. He is a good soldier, there is no doubt about it. He is a very reliable guide and the most important thing is, that the masses of Bijolia have implicit confidence in him"

After Gandhiji appeared on the national scene, the terrorist activities subsided and the current flowing in Ajmer merged with the main stream of the national movement. A branch of Indian National Congress was established in 1915. Following Gandhiji's command of Salt Satyagraha, Shri Ramdin and Bhikam Singh prepared salt and were arrested alongwith other local leaders of Beawar, namely; Shri Swami Kumaranand (present M.L.A. to State Assembly), Maulana Maqbool, Gopi Lal Sharma, Ram Niwas Sharma and Chiman Singh Lodha. In 1940-41, Shri Mukut Bihari Lal and Brij Mohan Lal Sharma, were together nominated as dictator and they alongwith other members, offered Individual Satyagrah and went to Jail. The 'Quit India Movement', launched on 9th August, 1942 spread to Ajmer also. Nearly 80 persons were arrested in the province of Ajmer-Merwara; prominent among them being Sarvashri, Hari Bhau Upadhyaya, Mu-

kut Bihari Lal Bhargava, Bal Krishna Kaul, Jwala Prasad, Ram Narain Chaudhry, Krishan Gopal Garg, Shanker Lal Verma, Chandra Gupta Varshneya, Kanahiya Lal Khadiwala (of Indore), Maulana Abdul Shakoor, Syed Abbas Ali and Daud Vishard (probably the only Christian to have participated in freedom movement in Ajmer).

The press of Ajmer also did not lag behind in associating itself in the freedom movement. At a time when journalism was in infancy in India, an English political weekly *Rajputana Times* was started, on 8th August 1895. The main objectives of this weekly newspaper were to bring the lime light, the high-handedness of the Government officials and give vent to the people's grievances. It used to criticize severely willful negligence of peoples' interest by the Govt. and various measures of oppression. After one and a half years of the publication of the *Rajputana Times*, a member of the Jaipur Regency Council filed a suit against its editor Bakshi Laxaman Dass. The editor was sentenced to one and a half years of imprisonment and probably this was the cause that brought this paper to a close.

In 1898, a Hindi journal *Rajasthan Samachar* was started by Munshi Samrath Dan Charan, a disciple of Swami Dayanand. After rendering valuable service to the public cause for nearly thirty years, Shri Samrath Dan Charan was forced to give a declaration relinquishing the responsibility of printing and publishing the *Rajasthan Samachar*, before a Magistrate on the 21st April, 1908. Efforts to resume the publication made by one Shri Narayan Das Jyotishi did not succeed.

The *Weekly Darbar* and *Navajyoti* which were started in 1927 and 1938 by Sarvashri M.M. Lal Gupta and Ram Narayan Choudhry respectively, also played an important role in the political movement.

Election

LOK SABHA—In the 1952 general elections, Ajmer was a part 'C' State and was represented in the Lok Sabha by two members elected from the constituencies of Ajmer north and Ajmer south with an electorate of 1,62,327 and 1,67,157 respectively. A total of 97,165 (59.85 per cent) valid votes were cast for the Ajmer north constituency and the seat was won by a Congress candidate, Shri Jwala Prasad, with 46,679 (48.04 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Shri Chand Karan (Jan Sangh) secured 28,990 votes (29.83 per cent of the total valid votes cast), Shri Dino Mal (Pursharathi Panchayat) secured 10,778 votes (11.08 per cent of the total valid votes cast), Shri Bajoria Badridass

and Shri Rangraj Mehta both (independent) candidates secured 6,153 and 4,565 votes (6.54 and 4.70 per cent of the total valid votes) respectively. The last three lost their security deposits.

In the Ajmer south constituency, out of the electorate of 1,67,157 a total of 81,834 (48.95 per cent) valid votes were cast and the seat was won by Shri Mukut Bihari Lal (Congress) with 43,082 votes (52.6 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Shri Kumara Nand (Communist) secured 25,128 votes (30.6 per cent of the total valid votes cast).

VIDHAN SABHA—Till 1-11-1956, Ajmer was a part 'C' State and had a separate state legislature, with 30 members elected from 24 constituencies. Six of these were double member constituencies each electing one extra member belonging to Scheduled Castes.

Ajmer Assembly Elections; 1952

In the Ajmer south-west double member constituency, which comprised the areas covered by wards No. 8, 13, 14, 22 to 25 and 32 of Ajmer Municipality, there was a total electorate of 22,111. Each having a right to cast two votes. The number of valid votes cast was 25,618. 13 candidates contested the general seat which was won by Shri Arjan Das (Pursharathi Panchayat) with 5,549 votes (21.7 per cent of the total valid votes cast). The reserved seat was won by Shri Paras Ram (Pursharathi Panchayat) with 4,672 votes (18.2 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Their closest rivals were Pooran Chand (for Scheduled Caste seat) and Vidya Ram (for General seat) from the Congress, who secured 4,588 votes (17.9 per cent of the total valid votes cast) and 4,085 votes (15.3 per cent of the total valid votes cast) respectively. Shri Mithan Lal Jayant (Jan Sangh) Shri Baldeo Prasad (Socialist) and the Independent candidates, Shri Braham Deo, Shri Khiloomal, Shri Kodumal, Shri Rangraj Mehta, Shri Ram Chand, Shri Taran Singh and Shri D. Vable secured 1,673, 724, 1088, 566, 422, 132, 145, 47, 1,927 votes respectively and all lost their security deposits.

The Ajmer East double member constituency comprised the wards Nos. 16, 20, 26 to 31 of Ajmer Municipality area. There was a total electorate of 22,258 having a right to cast two votes each and the number of total valid votes cast for both general and reserved seats was 24,480 votes (54.99 per cent). There were 13 candidates for both seats. Congress secured both the seats, Shri Harjit Lal winning the reserved seat with 4,918 votes (20.08 per cent of the total valid votes

cast) and Shri Bal Krishana Kaul winning the general seat with 5,251 votes (21.45 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Shri Kishan Lal (Jan Sangh, General Seat) secured 3,126 votes (12.76 per cent of the total valid votes cast) and Shri Sukh Lal (Jan Sangh, reserved seat) secured 1,363 votes. Shri Nathu Singh Independent candidate secured 4,802 (19.61 per cent of the total valid votes cast) and lost with a very narrow margin. Shri V.T. Bijlani (Pursharathi Panchayat) secured 793 votes. Other Independent candidates were: Shri Doong Singh (1,270 votes), Shri Lakhsman Singh (479 votes), Shri Nityanand (318 votes), Dr. H. K. Prim (724 votes), Shri Ram Pal (962 votes), Shri Ram Singh (247 votes) and Shri Vishan Lal (227 votes). All the candidates belonging to Jan Sangh, the Pursharathi Panchayat and Independent lost their deposits.

In the Ajmer Kala-Bagh constituency, which comprised the areas covered by the wards No. 2, 17 to 19 of Ajmer Municipality, there was a total electorate of 12,529 votes. The number of valid votes cast was 6,988 (55.78 per cent). Five candidates contested the seat, which was won by Shri Ramesh Chandra (Congress) with 3,207 votes (45.9 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Shri Dayashankar (Jan Sangh) secured 2,439 votes. The independent candidates; Shri Guman Mal, Shri Iswar Singh and O. K. Saxena secured 1,155, 149 and 38 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

The Ajmer town hall constituency comprised the areas covered by wards No. 10 to 12 and 15 of Ajmer Municipality. The total electorate was 9,574 and the valid votes polled 7,031 (73.43 per cent). The seat was won by Shri Bhiman Dass (Pursharathi Panchayat) with 3,017 votes (42.8 per cent of the total valid votes cast). His closest rival was Deo Dutt (Congress) who secured 2,196 votes. Shri Jetha Nand (Jan Sangh) secured 1,212 votes. Shri Karan (Socialist) and other three independent candidates: Shri Amrit Kumar, Shri Suresh Chandra and Shri Nebhan Dass secured, 39, 450, 81 and 36 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

The Ajmer Nayabazar constituency comprised the area of wards No. 1, 6, 7 and 9 of the Ajmer Municipality. The total electorate was 11,467 and the valid votes cast 7,063 (61.59 per cent). There were four contestants. The seat was won by Amba Lal (Jan Sangh) with 3,519 (49.07 per cent of the total valid votes polled). Shri Pratap Chand (Congress) secured 2,139 votes and Shri Sobhraj (independent) 1,206 votes and Shri Haru Mal (Pursharathi Panchayat) lost his deposit as he secured only 199 votes.

The Ajmer Dhai-din-ka-jhonpra constituency comprised the area and population covered by wards No. 3 to 5 and 21 of Ajmer Municipality. The total electorate was 12,032 and the total valid votes cast 7,500 (52.37 per cent). The seat was contested by six candidates and won by Shri Syed Abbas Ali (Congress) with 2,872 votes (38.3 per cent of the total valid votes polled). Shri Pohumal (Pursharathi Pan-chayat) secured 1,551 votes, Shri Kishan Gurnani (Independent) 2,004 votes. Rest of the candidates lost their security. They were: Shri Mohammad Hussian Chisty (198), Shri Chotey Lal (806), Shri Manmal (69) votes.

The Srinagar constituency comprised the Srinagar Girdawar circle area. The total electorate was 11,191 and the number of valid votes cast was 5,552 (49.61 per cent). The seat was contested by four contestants and won by Shri Hari Bhau Upadhyaya (Congress) with 3,779 votes (68.0 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Shri Kistur Chand (Jan Sangh) secured 1,148 votes. Independent candidates; Shri Chhoga and Shiv Ram secured 212 and 413 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

The Derathu constituency comprised the villages in the Derathu Girdawar Circle. The total electorate was 11,556 and the valid votes polled 6,731 (58.24 per cent). The seat was contested by four candidates and won by Shri Himmat Ali (Congress) with 4,756 votes (70.6 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Shri Bhagvati Prasad (Jan Sangh) secured 880 votes, and the independent candidates Shri Hazari and Shri Iftikhar Ali secured 924 and 171 votes respectively. All the three unsuccessful candidates lost their security deposits.

Jethana double member constituency comprised the villages in Jethana of Girdawar circle. The total electorate was 18,576 each having a right to cast two votes and the valid votes polled 17,246 (46.42 per cent). In all, the two seats were contested by nine candidates. Shri Bhagirath Singh (Congress) won the general seat with 5,131 votes (29.7 per cent of the total valid votes polled) Shri Narayan (Congress) won the reserved seat with 2,968 votes (17.0 per cent of the total valid votes cast). The Jan Sangh candidates, Shri Balmukand and Shri Bhikam Chand (S.C.) and the independent candidates; Shri Hazarilal, Shri Sujan Chand, Shri Keshav Sen, Shri Pannalal and Shri Sawai secured 1,827, 1,769, 1,989, 1,759, 413, 285 and 1,105 votes respectively. The last three lost their security deposits.

The Pushkar south constituency comprised, Pushkar Girdawar circle excluding 20 villages included in the Pushkar north consti-

tuency. The total electorate was 10,265 and the valid votes polled 6,013 (58.56 per cent). There were four contestants and the seat was won by Shri Jai Narain (Congress) with 3,058 votes (50.8 per cent of the total valid votes cast). His closest rival was Shri Karan Singh (Jan Sangh) who secured 2,615 votes (43.0 per cent of the total valid votes cast). The independent candidates; Shri Saheshkaran Man and Shri Pannalal secured 198 and 142 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

The Pushkar North constituency comprised of the villages of Girdawar circles of Pushkar and Gagwana. These were Kankarda, Bho-nabai, Lohagal, Makarwali, Hokran, Khori, Kanwalai, Karel, Chorsiya-was, Nosar, Kanas, Nedlia, Galti, Tilora, Banseli, Chanwandiya; Gan-ahera, Nand, Rampura, Kishanpura and Lehsua. Padampura, Cha-chiawas, Kayar, Ghugra, Chatri, Ararka, Babaicha, Hansiya-was, Magri and Hoshiara (Gangwana Girdawar Circle). The total elec-torate was 10,689 and the total valid votes cast 6,641 (62.13 per cent). The seat was contested by seven candidates and won by Shri Shiv Narain Singh (Congress) with 2,484 votes (38.2 per cent of the total valid votes polled). Two independent candidates Shri Chitar Mal and Shri Onkar Singh secured 1,482 and 1,493 respectively. The rest of the independent candidates losing their security were Shri Amarchand, Shri Hazari Lal, Shri Manak Chand, and Shri Mool Chand securing 555, 185, 184, 258 votes respectively.

The Gagwana constituency comprised Gagwana Girdawar circle except the villages included in the Pushkar north constituency. The total electorate was 10,088 and the number of valid votes cast was 6,027 (59.74 per cent). It was a triangular contest and the seat was won by Shri Kishan Lal Lamror (Congress) with 2,980 votes (49.00 per cent of the total valid votes polled). His closest rival Shri Khema (in-dependent) securing 2,696 votes. Shri Hardayal (Jan Sangh) secured only 351 votes and lost his security deposit.

The Nasirabad double member constituency comprised, Nasirabad, town, Ramsar Girdawar circle of Ajmer sub-division and Goela Police Station of Bhinai Girdawar circle of Kekri Sub-division. The total electorate was 23,521 each of them having two votes and the total valid votes polled 18,838 (40.04 per cent). There were five candidates contesting for the two seats. The reserved seat went to Shri Laxmina-ryan (Congress) with 5,068 votes (26.8 per cent of the total valid votes polled). The general seat was won by Shri Mahendar Singh (independ-ent) with 5,064 votes (26.8 per cent of the total valid votes polled).

His closest rival was Shri Bhura Lal (Congress), who secured 4,709 votes. Shri Puran Mal (independent) secured 3,666 votes. Shri Ram Ji Lal (Socialist) secured 331 votes and lost his security deposit.

The Bhinai constituency comprised the following villages of Bhinai Girdawar circle:—Nagola, Piloda, Tantoti, Bubkia, Piproli, Kebania, Kumaria, Kitap, Kalyanpura, Dhantol, Hirapura, Gujarwara, Udaigarhkhera, Ren, Solkalan, Sholkhurd, Sedria, Bandanwara, Chhachhundra, Ratanpura, Bhinai, Amargar, Ruppura, Jhipiyan, Piplia, Kanaikhurd Kanaikalan, Paranga, Ratakot, Badla and Mathania. The total electorate was 10,876 and the total valid votes cast 6,134 (56.40 per cent). It was a straight fight between Shri Kalyan Singh (Jan Sangh) who won by securing 3,164 votes and Madan Singh (Congress) who secured 2,970 votes.

The Deolia-Kalan constituency comprised of the following villages of Bhinai Girdawar circle: Karanti, Govalia (Gola), Kheri, Paratabpura, Daulatpura, Tilara, Sobri, Gopalpura, Sargaon, Kerot, Jaipura, Kurthal, Champaneri, Ghana, Khaira, Nimera, Nandsi, Kacharia, Gudhakalan, Nimahera, Padlia (Chawandiya), Deolia Kalan, Bagrai, Gudha Khurd, Lamgara, Barli, Ganahera, Chawandia, Ekalsingha, Jhabarkia, Baneria, Singhwala and Hinyalina. The total electorate was 11,517 and the total number of valid votes cast was 4,880 (40.20 per cent). Four candidates contested the seat, which was won by Shri Chagan Lal (Congress) with 3,353 votes (68.6 per cent of the total valid votes polled). Shri Onkar Singh (Jan Sangh) secured 1,013 votes. The independent candidates Shri Balwant Rai and Shri Madan Singh secured 312 and 202 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

The Sawar constituency comprised the villages in Sawar Police Station of Kekri Girdawar circle. The total electorate was 11,353 and the total valid votes cast 7,281 (64.13 per cent). It was a triangular contest and the seat was won by Shri Laxman Singh (Independent) with 5,192 votes (71.4 per cent of the total valid votes polled). Shri Deoki Ballabh (Congress) the closest rival of Shri Laxman Singh secured 1,863 votes. Shri Raghubir Singh secured 226 votes and lost his security deposit.

The double member Kekri constituency comprised the villages in Kekri Girdawar circle excluding those of Sarwar Police Station. The total electorate was 24,193 and the total valid votes cast 20,981. The two seats were contested by 10 candidates and were secured by Congress, the general seat being won by Shri Jeth Mal with 6,596 (31.5 per

cent of the total valid votes polled) and the reserved seat by Shri Sewa Dass with 4,192 votes (19.9 per cent of the total valid votes polled) respectively. Shri Mahendra Lal an independent secured 2,744 votes. Those losing their security were Shri Goda, Shri Hathi Ram, Shri Jagdish, Shri Jagdish Prasad, Shri Kan Mal, Shri Prithvi Singh and Shri Ram Niwas secured 2,744, 1,345, 1,070, 976, 549, 2,105, 385, 1,019 votes.

The Beawar city constituency comprised wards No. 1, 5 to 7 of Beawar municipality. The total electorate was 11,101 and the total number of valid votes cast was 6,095 (54.9 per cent). There were four candidates for the seat which was won by Shri Brij Mohan Lal (Congress) with 2,372 votes (38.9 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Shri Keshrimal (Communist) secured 1,477 votes, Shri Sunder Lal (independent) secured 1,853 votes, Shri L. D. Austin (independent) secured 393 votes and lost his security deposit.

The Beawar City south constituency comprised wards No. 2 to 4 and 8 of the Beawar Municipality. The total electorate was 10,804 and the total valid votes polled 5509 (50.90 per cent). There were four contestants for the seat which was won by Shri Jagan Nath (Congress) with 2,797 votes (50.8 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Shri Kalyan Singh (Communist) secured 2,017 votes. The independent candidates; Shri Ghewar Chand and Shri Shankar Lal secured 428, 267 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

The Shyamgarh constituency comprised villages of the Shyamgarh Girdawar circle. The total electorate was 9,532 and the total valid votes cast 5,454 (57.20 per cent). There were four contestants for the seat which was won by Shri Wali Mohammad (Congress) with 3,273 votes (60.0 per cent of the total valid votes cast). The independent candidates; Shri Durga Prasad, Shri Kishan Lal and Shri Pratap Singh secured 839, 343 and 999 votes respectively and the first two independent candidates losing their security deposits.

The Masuda double member constituency comprised the Istimrari Circle except the villages included in the Nayanagar constituency. The electorate was 22,667 and the total valid votes cast 17,850 (39.22 per cent). There were seven contestants for the two seats. The reserved seat was won by Shri Surajmal Moriya (Congress) with 3,746 votes (21.0 per cent of the total valid votes cast). The general seat was won by Shri Narayan Singh (independent) with 4,864 votes (27.2 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Shri Kanhaiyalal (Congress) secured 4,818

votes (26.8 per cent of the total valid votes cast). The independent candidates; Shri Kesho Ram, Shri Genda Lal, Shri Madan Singh and Shri Murari Lal secured 2,173, 954, 383, 912 votes respectively. Except Shri Kesho Ram, all of them lost their security deposits.

The Nayanagar constituency was comprised the villages of Nayanagar Girdawar circle along with the following villages of *Istamarari* Girdawar Circle: Kharwa, Amritpura (Kharwa), Bhawanipura (Kharwa), Deogarh, Fatehgarh (Kharwa), Gopal Sagar (Kharwa), Gurdie (Kharwa), Deopura (Kharwa), Gaurdia (Kharwa), Jaswantpura (Kharwa), Lahri (Kharwa), Madhogarh (Kharwa), Piplaj, Chhabratod (Kharwa), Rampur (Kharwa), Ranisagar (Kharwa), Rudlai, Ruparail (Kharwa), Sarnia, Surajpura, Apabai (Piplaj), Moorfuwa (Piplaj), Tiri, Mailan, Nasoonj Anargart, Zamana, Todoothan (Tiri) and Kashipura.

The electorate was 10,574 and the total valid votes cast 5,318 votes (50.29 per cent). There were four contestants for the seat which was won by Shri Ganpati Singh (Jan Sangh) with 1,958 votes (36.8 per cent of the total valid votes cast) just 119 more than his closed rival Shri Bherun (Congress) who secured 1,847 votes. Two independent candidates Shri Jawara and Shri Kundanmal secured 1,251 and 262 votes, respectively and the latter lost his security deposit.

The Jawaja constituency comprised of the Jawaja Girdawar Circle except the villages included in the Todgarh constituency and the following villages of the Nayanagar Girdawar circle: Balaikhera, Singaria, Rajiawas, Gohana, Jaitpura, Kalinjar, Lamba, Narbad-Khera, Partapura, Raitakhera, Ramkhera, Dhanar, Ramsar Mohalla, Sanwa, Ramasar, Balayan, Shahpura, Kalnjar and Atitmand.

The electorate was 10,819 and the total valid votes polled 5,234 (48.37 per cent). It was a triangular contest and the seat was won by Shri Chiman Singh (independent) with 3,891 votes (74.4 per cent of the total valid votes polled). The highest percentage of valid votes secured by any single candidate in the first general election for Vidhan Sabha of Ajmer State. Shri Budha Singh (Congress) secured 1,009 votes. Shri Khub Chand (Independent) secured 334 votes and lost his security deposit.

The Todgarh constituency comprised the areas of Todgarh Girdawar circle and the following villages of the Jawaja Girdawar circle: Surajpura, Barkocharan, Banarakhera, Jalia II Bas Durga, Jalia II

Bas Lala, Jalia II Bas Pitha, Lotiyana, Soniyana, Bhurian Khcra Kalan, Bhuria-Khera Khurd, Behar Ratanpura and Bheron Kera.

The total electorate was 10,200 and the valid votes cast 4,324 (42.39 per cent). There were five contestants for the seat which was won by Shri Prem Singh (Congress) with 1,386 votes (32.0 per cent of the total valid votes polled). The independent candidates; Shri Hamira, Shri Kan Singh, Shri Basant Rai and Shri Narain Dass secured, 1,025, 1,071, 690 and 152 votes and the last two lost their security deposits.

Bye-Election

The reserved seat in the Jethana double member constituency fell vacant on 26.11.1952 due to the death of Shri Ram Narayan. The bye-election was held in 1953. It was a straight contest between Shri Hazari (Congress) and Shri Bhikam Chand (Independent). The total number of valid votes polled was 3,060 (51.5 per cent). Shri Hazari (Congress) secured 1,824 votes and was declared elected on 10.3.1953. Shri Bhikam Chand (Independent) secured 1,236 votes only.

In the Gagwana constituency, the election of Shri Kishan Lal Lamror was declared void by the Election Tribunal on 17.6.1953. Shri Madan Singh was declared elected unopposed on 17.8.1953 but the Election Tribunal declared his election also void on 28.4.1954. In the Second Bye-election Shri Fateh Singh was declared elected on 24.8.1954.

The Election Tribunal declared void the election of Shri Kalyan Singh on 18.6.1953 from the Bhinai Constituency. In the bye-election the number of valid votes cast was 5,607 (51.5 per cent). It was a triangular contest and the seat was won by Shri Kalyan Singh (Jan Sangh) with 3,662 votes. He was declared elected on 26.9.1953. His closest rival Chiman Singh (Congress) secured 1,635 votes. Shri Misri Lal Chitlangiya (Independent) secured 310 votes and lost his security deposits.

On 20.6.1953 the election of Shri Ganpat Singh of the Nayanagar constituency was declared void by the Election Tribunal. In the bye-election, the number of valid votes cast was 5,360 (50.7 per cent). It was a triangular contest and the seat was won by Shri Ganpat Singh (Jansangh) with 3,516 votes. He was declared elected on 29.9.53. Shri Bheron Lal (Congress) and Shri Birdha (Independent) secured 1,453 and 391 votes respectively and the latter lost his security deposits.

In the first general election to the Vidhan Sabha, out of 30 seats, twenty seats went to Congress, three seats to Jan Sangh, three to Pursharthi Panchayat and the remaining four to independent candidates. The total number of valid votes secured by the Political parties and independent candidates as a whole, was: Congress 1,01,441, Jan Sangh 28,612, Pursharthi Panchayat 15,781, Socialist and Communists 4,588 and the independents 83,366. The party-wise position of cases of forfeiture of security was: Jan Sangh 5, Pursharthi Panchayat 5, Socialist and Communist 3 and the Independents 56.

Congress being the majority party having won 20 seats out of the total of 30 seats, formed the ministry in the Ajmer State, which was then a part 'C' State. The Council of Ministers consisted of Shri Haribhai Upadhyaya, as Chief Minister, Shri Bal Krishna Kaul, Finance Minister and Shri Brij Mohan Lal Sharma, Revenue Minister. Shri Bhagirath Singh Choudhri was elected Speaker and Shri Ramesh Chandra Bhargava as the Deputy Speaker of the State Assembly.

SECOND GENERAL ELECTION

Lok Sabha Election 1957

In the second general election (1957) Ajmer Lok Sabha constituency was comprised of the assembly constituencies of Kishangarh, Pushkar, Ajmer City East, Ajmer City West, Nasirabad, Bawar and Kekri with the total electorate of 3,79,476. The seat was contested by four candidates: Shri Mukut Behari Lal (Congress), Shri Ram Chand Sivari Das (Jan Sangh), Shri Bithal Dass (Independent), and Pt. Kanhaiya Lal Azad (Independent). Shri Mukat Behari Lal, the Congress candidate polled 1,01,069 votes and was declared elected. His closest rival Shri Ram Chand Sivari Das (Jan Sangh) secured 42,786 votes. Shri Bithal Das (Independent) and Pt. Kanhaiya Lal Azad (Independent) secured 16,492 votes and 15,725 votes respectively. The two independent members lost their security deposits. The number of valid votes cast was 1,76,072 or 46.4 per cent.

Vidhan Sabha Election 1957

In the Ajmer, till then a part 'C' State, was merged in Rajasthan and became a district. Nine Vidhan Sabha seats were allotted to the district in the 2nd general election. After addition of Kishangarh and Sarwar areas the district was divided into eight constituencies which drastically changed the delimitation of the constituencies.

Ajmer City West Constituency comprised the areas of wards No. 1 to 15, 21, 22 and 32 of the Ajmer municipality. The total electorate was 50,596 and the total valid votes polled 27,470 (54.3 per cent). There were five contestants for the seat which was won by Shri Arjan Dass (Independent) with 14,400 votes (52.4 per cent of the total valid votes polled). Shri Pohumal (Congress) secured 10,410 votes. The independent candidates, Shri Bal Dev Prasad, Shri Shyam Lal and Shri Man Mal secured 219, 489 and 1,721 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

Ajmer city west constituency comprised wards No. 16 including military areas to 20 and 23 to 31 of Ajmer municipality. The total electorate was 46,475 and total valid votes polled 25,745 (55.9 per cent). It was a triangular contest and the seat was won by Shri Mahendra Singh (Independent) with 16,778 (65.2 per cent of the total valid votes polled). Shri Balkrishan Kaul (Congress) secured 8,211 votes, Shri A. N. Alexander (Independent) secured 756 votes and lost his security deposit.

The Pushkar constituency comprised Pisangan and Gagwana Girdawar circle in Ajmer tahsil. The total electorate was 46,618 and the total valid votes polled 20,179 (48.3 per cent). There were five contestants for the seat which was won by Shrimati Prabha with 8,475 votes (42.00 per cent of the total valid votes cast). Rest of the candidates, all independents were Shri Keshav Sen, Shri Keshar Singh, Shri Prem Dass, Shri Vishan Dass, Shri Chhoga Singh securing 6,810, 1,256; 856; 820, 1,962 votes respectively. Except Shri Keshav Sen all of them lost their security deposits.

The Nasirabad constituency was changed from double to a single-member constituency and was reorganized to comprise, Nasirabad Cantt., Jethana, Derathu and Ramsar Girdawar circles in Ajmer tahsil and Srinagar Girdawar Circle (excluding Srinagar, Pharbia and Tehari Patwar circles). The total electorate was 45,102 and the valid votes cast 20,277 (45.0 per cent). It was a triangular contest and the seat was won by Shri Jawala Prashad (Congress) with 12,449 votes (61.4 per cent of the total valid votes polled). Shri Bhagirath Singh (independent) secured 6,267 votes. Shri Manak Chand (Independent) secured 1,561 and lost his security deposit.

After integration of Rajasthan, Kishangarh sub-division became a part of Ajmer district. This constituency was reorganized to comprise Kishangarh, Roopangarh tahsils and Srinagar, Pharkia and Tehari.

Patwar circles in Srinagar, Girdawar circle of Ajmer tahsil. The total electorate was 42,614 and the valid votes cast 16,428 (38.6 per cent). It was a multi-cornered contest and the seat was won by Shri Puroshottam Lal (Congress) with 7,613 votes (46.3 per cent of the total valid votes polled). Shri Shyam Sunder (Ram Rajya Parishad) secured 3,855 votes. The independent candidates, Shri Chand Mal and Shri Roop Narain secured 4,143 and 817 votes respectively and the latter lost his security deposit.

The Kekri double member constituency was reorganized to comprise, Kekri and Sarwar tahsil areas. The total electorate was 1,06,352 and the valid votes cast 74,886 (37.7 per cent). The two seats (one general and one reserved) were contested by six candidates. Both the seats were won by Congress. Shri Hazari s/o Shiv Ram (Scheduled Caste) and Shri Haribhau Upadhyaya (from general seat) securing 19,865 and 20,004 votes respectively. Shri Kalyan Singh (R.R.P.) secured 15,765 votes. The independent candidates, Shri Sukhrāj Singh, Shri Shyam Lal, Shri Hazari s/o Bhawara, and Shri Ratan Lal secured 6,835, 3,328, 3,181 and 5,908 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

The Beawar constituency was reorganised to comprise, Beawar municipality, Kharwa circle and Nayanagar Girdawar circle (excluding Gohana, Atitmand Patwar circles in Beawar tahsil). The total electorate was 41,717 and the valid votes cast 25,564 (61.4 per cent). This was the highest percentage of valid votes polled in any of the eight constituencies of Ajmer district second general election. There were four contestants for the seat which was retained by Shri Brij Mohan Sharma (Congress) with 10,750 votes (42.0 per cent of the valid votes polled). Shri Kumar Anand (Communist) secured 10,400 votes. Shri Bhagrath (independent) and Shri Ganpat Singh (Jan Sangh) secured 578 and 3,836 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

The double-member Masuda constituency was changed into a single member constituency and was reorganised to comprise Masuda, Jalia, Shamgarh, Jawaja and Khera-Kalan Girdawar circles and Gohana and Atitmand Patwar circles in Nayanagar Girdawar circles of Beawar tahsil. The total electorate was 50,546 and valid votes cast 23,726 (47.0 per cent). There were four contestants for the seat which was won by Shri Narain Singh (Congress) with 15,171 votes (63.9 per cent of the total valid votes cast). The independent candidates, Shri Panchulal, Shri Jala, Shri Prem Singh secured 4,145, 1,279, 3,131 votes respectively. The last two lost their security deposits.

For the 1957 election, Ajmer was allotted nine seats to be elected from eight constituencies one of which was a double member constituency with one of the seats reserved for Scheduled Castes. In all 37 candidates contested for nine seats. The party wise distribution of candidates was as follows: Congress 9, Jan Sangh 2, R.R.P. 2, Communist 1 and independents 23. Seven seats were won by Congress party and two by the independents. Rest of the parties could not win a single seat.

THIRD GENERAL ELECTION

Lok Sabha 1962

In third general election (1962) Ajmer Lok Sabha constituency was comprised by the assembly constituencies of Kishangarh, Pushkar, Ajmer city west, Ajmer city east, Nasirabad, Bhinai, Beawar and Kekri, with a total electorate of 4,32,778 votes. The number of valid votes cast was 2,32,697 (55.80 per cent). The seat was contested by seven candidates and won by Shri Mukut Behari Lal (Congress) with 92,598 votes. His closest rival, Shri Bhagwan Das (Jan Sangh) secured 60,455 votes. Shri Sobhagmal (Swatantra) secured 50,676 votes. Shri Shyam Lal (Hindu Maha Sabha) secured 3,635 votes. The independent candidates; Shri Nathu Singh, Shri Kanmal and Shri Kanhyalal Azad secured 13,826, 9,332 and 2,175 votes respectively. The Hindu Maha Sabha as well as the independent candidates lost their deposits.

Vidhan Sabha

The number of seats and constituencies remained the same, i.e. 9 and 8 respectively. In all 55 candidates contested nine seat belonging to the following parties: Congress 9, Jan Sangh 6, Swatantra 8, Communist 1, Socialist 1, Hindu Maha Sabha 2, R.R.P. 1 and independents 27. Six seats went to Congress, two to Swatantra and one to Communist party.

The Kishangarh constituency had a total electorate of 50,344 and the total number of valid votes polled was 26,678 (54.72 per cent). The seat was contested by four candidates and won by Shri Bal Chand (Swatantra) with 11,007 votes. His closest rival was Shri Pursottam Lal (Congress) who secured 9,280 votes. Shri Chand Mal (Jan Sangh) and Shri Sia Sharan (independent) secured 4,033 and 2,358 votes respectively and lost their security deposits.

Pushkar constituency had a total electorate of 54,139 and the total number of valid votes polled was 26,340 (51.72 per cent). The seat was:

contested by five candidates and won by Shrimati Prabha Misra (Congress) with 10,651 votes. Shri Devi Singh (Jan Sangh) secured 7,561 votes and Shri Shiva Singh (Swatantra) secured 5,802 votes. The independent candidates Shyama (woman candidate) and Abdul Karim secured 1,293 and 1,033 votes respectively.

Ajmer city west constituency had a total electorate of 53,444 votes and the total number of valid votes polled was 35,616 (69.22 per cent). The seat was contested by nine candidates and won by Shri Polu Mal (Congress) with 16,639 votes. Shri Chiranji Lal (Jan Sangh), Shri Manak Chand (Swatantra) and Shri Hasanand (H.M.S.) secured 8,295, 3,371 and 145 votes respectively. The last two lost their security deposits. The independent candidates; Shri Kishan Gurnani, Shri Madan Lal, Shri Amba Lal, Shri Ram Chandra and Shri Arjun Dass secured 5,607, 773, 613, 92 and 81 votes respectively and all of them lost their security deposits.

Ajmer city east constituency had a total electorate of 54,529 votes and the total number of valid votes polled was 33,698 (64.38 per cent). The seat was contested by eight candidates and was won by Shri Bal Krishna Kaul (Congress) with 22,961 votes. His closest rival was Shri Nanak Ram (Jan Sangh) who secured 7,916 votes. Shri Mishri Lal (Socialist) secured 452 votes and lost his security deposit. The independent candidates Shri Gokul Das Sukhee, Shri Sewa Ram, Shri Data Ram, Shrimati Bhagwan Devi Rajpal and Shri Kanhiya Lal Azad secured, 1,372, 509, 237, 141 and 110 votes respectively losing security deposits.

Nasirabad constituency had a total electorate of 50,827 votes and the total number of valid votes polled was 24,502 (51.39 per cent). The seat was contested by six candidates and won by Shri Jawala Prashad (Congress) with 8,305 votes, Shri Hanuman Singh (Swatantra) and Shri Dharam Chand (Jan Sangh) secured 6,969 and 2,216 votes respectively and the latter lost his security deposit. The independent candidates Shri Bhagirath Singh, Shri Udai Singh and Shri Chandra Pal secured 5,143, 1,356 and 513 votes respectively and last two lost their security deposits.

The Beawar constituency had a total electorate of 47,634 and the total number of valid votes polled was 31,414 (69.03 per cent). The seat was contested by four candidates and won by Shri Kumaranand (Communist) with 11,681 votes. His closest rival was Shri Brij Mohan Lal (Congress) who secured 9,575 votes, Shri Gaj Raj (Swatantra)

secured 1,068 votes and lost his security deposit. The only independent candidate Shri Chiman Singh secured 9,090 votes.

The Masuda constituency had a total electorate of 57,169 votes and the total number of valid votes polled was 30,234 (52.3 per cent). The seat was contested by five candidates and won by Shri Narayan Singh (Congress) with 14,199 votes. His closest rival was, Shri Fateh Singh (Swatantra) who secured 13,222 votes. Shri Ram Deo Singh (Jan Sangh) secured 1,081 votes and lost his security deposits. The independent candidates; Shri Bhanwar Lal and Shri Pratap Singh secured 996 and 736 votes and both of them lost their security deposits.

Bhinai, a reserved constituency for scheduled castes, had a total electorate of 57,018 votes and the total number of valid votes polled was 19,578 (36.13 per cent). The seat was contested by eight candidates and was won by Shri Chauthu (Swatantra) with 9,416 votes. His closest rival was Shri Hari Chand (Congress) who secured 6,758 votes. Shri Sukh Raj Singh (R.R.P.) secured 463 votes and lost his security deposit. The independent candidates; Shri Lumba, Shri Gopi Lal, Shri Bhanwar Lal, Shri Bansi Lal and Shri Hajari secured 882, 760, 543 and 295 votes respectively and all of them lost their security deposits.

The Kekri constituency had a total electorate of 64,799 and the total number of valid votes polled was 32,564 (50.7 per cent). The seat was contested by six candidates and won by Shri Haribhau Upadhyaya (Congress) with 13,752 votes. His closest rival was Shri Narpat Singh (Swatantra) who secured 12,762 votes. Shri Shyam Lal (H.M.S.) secured 163 votes and lost his security deposit. The independent candidates Shri Kan Mal, Shri Ratan Lal and Shri Abdul Ghani secured 2,668, 2,468 and 751 votes respectively and all of them lost their security deposits.

Political Parties

As mentioned earlier, the branch of the Indian National Congress was officially established in the year 1915, though the message of the Congress had reached the people even earlier. For the purpose of controlling the party organization, the district Congress party has been divided into Rural and Ajmer city (Urban) sections. The District Rural Congress Committee consists of 15 members. Below it are 30 Mandal Congress Committees, each consists of 18 to 20 members.

The Ajmer City District Congress Committee covers the entire population comprised within the limits of the Ajmer Municipality.

The rest of the area is covered by the Ajmer Rural District Congress Committee.

Both the District Committees have a President, a Vice-President and a Treasurer duly elected. The President nominates two General Secretaries in each section, on 1st January, 1961. Shri Purushottam Das Kudal was the President of the Ajmer City District Congress Committee. Rao Narain Singh of Masuda was the President of the Rural District Congress Committee.

The strength of the primary members of the Congress on 1.1.1961, was about 26,000 in the Ajmer City and about 56,000 in the Rural District.

The party claimed both the parliamentary seats allotted to the district in 1952 general elections. The party secured 1,01,441 votes for the election to Vidhan Sabha. And contested 29 seats in 23 constituencies and won 20 seats in the Ajmer Vidhan Sabha. In the second general elections, the party secured 48.2 per cent of the total valid votes polled in all the eight constituencies in the district and won seven out of the nine seats. The parliamentary seat was also won by the Congress party. In the third general election its polling percentage fell to 43.02 and total number of seats won, to six. However, the parliament seat was retained by it.

Jan Sangh

This party established its district office in the year 1951 with an initial strength of 500 members. Now the party claims to have a strength of 5,000 members with branches in Ajmer, Pisangan, Nasirabad, Ramsar, Kishangarh, Roopangarh, Salimabad, Beawar, Kekri and Masuda. The organization is divided into three levels, local committees, mandal (at tahsil level) and the district committee.

The candidates put up by the party for the parliamentary seat in the first, second and third general elections were unsuccessful. For election to Vidhan Sabha, the party put up 16 candidates and secured three seats in first general elections. In the second general elections, the party put up two candidates but could not win even a single seat and in third general elections, the party contested six seats without any success.

Others

Pursharthi Panchayat which won three seats in 1952 general elections, has ceased to exist now.

Ram Rajya Parishad and Socialists have not yet made much headway. The Communists have some hold on labour unions of Beawar, where they won a assembly seat this time. A branch of Swatantra party was established in Ajmer in 1959, and contested eight seats in the third general election winning two of the nine assembly seats. On 31st March, 1961, the party claimed a membership of 7,600 persons in the district. In the first general election Socialist and Communist parties put up three and two candidates respectively and in the second and third general elections to Vidhan Sabha, the Communist only contested in Beawar winning the one seat from there.

The popularity of the various political parties can be assessed on the basis of their performance in the 1957 and 1962 assembly elections. The percentage of votes secured by each party was as follows:—

Party	1957 per cent of votes	1962 per cent of votes	Gain (+) or loss (—) over 1957
1. Congress	48.2	43.2	—5.18
2. Swatantra	Not in Existence	24.41	—
3. Jan Sangh	1.6	11.93	+10.33
4. Communist	4.4	4.48	+0.08
5. Ram Rajya Parishad	8.4	0.17	—8.23
6. Socialist	Not Contested	0.17	+0.17
7. H. M. S.	Not Contested	0.11	+0.11
8. Independents	37.4	15.69	—21.71

This district leads the other districts in respect of political consciousness. In the last two general elections, 47.0 and 55.0 per cent of the total electorate exercised their right to vote. Though Congress is the most established and popular party in the district yet in this Vidhan Sabha election its voting was reduced by 5.18 per cent and total number of seats won by one. Though failing to win even a single seat, the Jan Sangh gained in voting per centage (10.33 per cent). The gains of Socialist, Hindu Maha Sabha and Communist parties were little. However, the Communist won a seat in Beawar for the first time. The Swatantra party a new contestant in the field, emerged second to Congress in securing electoral support (24.41 per cent) and bagged two seats.

News Papers and Periodicals

Both the registered and unregistered newspapers and periodicals are published in the district in the six languages, namely; Hindi, Sindhi, English, Urdu, Bengali and Sanskrit. In Ajmer city, 71 newspapers and periodicals are published in its printing presses. The rest of the periodicals are published from the following towns: Beawar, two magazines, namely; Gujar GAUR SANDESH on SANATAN DHARAM, RAJ-KIYA UCHMAHA VIDYALAYA PATRIKA are published at a local press named Gajanand Press. One magazine each is published from Pushkar and Srinagar. Most of these newspapers and periodicals are published less regularly than the claimed periodicity would suggest. These papers are described below:

DARBAR DAILY—It was first published in 1927. Its founder Shri M.M. Lal Gupta continues as its editor, publisher, printer and the owner. It is published in Hindi at its own printing press, known as Darbar Printing Press. The paper covers general information and local news. At the time of inception the weekly had a circulation of 1,000 copies. Now it contains five pages and has a circulation of 3,218 copies mostly in all the big towns of Rajasthan though a few copies are sent outside the State also. In the beginning it also used to bring out special issues on the various ruling princes. It is, however, not known whether this had anything to do with the title of the paper.

THE DAILY NAVAJYOTI—First published in 1936 as a monthly by Shri Ram Narayan Chaudhry, it was later changed into a daily. The monthly contained 60 pages and now the daily contains four pages. On an average, 9,545 copies are circulated in the districts of Rajasthan, Ujjain and Neemuch of Madhya Pradesh. The official policy of the paper is to encourage constructive work and it mainly covers general information and local news. It is printed at its own printing press named Amar Nav-Jyoti Press, which employs 18 workers. The present owner, printer and editor is D. P. Choudhary, an old Congressman. The office of the paper is located in Kaisarganj, Ajmer.

THE HINDU—This Sindhi daily was started in 1948 by Kaka Tilock Chand and after his death, the concern was purchased by Sarva Shri Bhagwan, Diwan Arjan Dass, Diwan Govindram and Sham Ram. It was later sold to the present owner Dr. Bhagwan Dass Chandwani, Diwan Arjan Dass T. Getwani, Shri Chhabaldas, Shri Govind Ram and Shri Deo Dass. The paper contains four pages since its inception. It is published at its own press, known as Hindu Electric Printing

MATRIBHUMI—This independent Sindhi weekly was started on 30.10.1958 by Shri Nanak Ram Israni. The number of pages has been six from the time of inception. In the beginning, circulation was 300 copies. Now it is 1,261 copies. The paper circulates in all the big cities of Rajasthan. The owners of the paper are: Smt. Pushpa Devi Kodwani and Kumari Kamla Kriplani. The concern is yet to have its own press and the paper is published at Ashok Electric Printing Press. It is critical of congress policies.

INSAF—This independent Sindhi weekly was started in the year 1959 by Shri Sugna Mal. The average circulation has increased from 500 copies in the first year to 1,000 copies in 1960-61. The paper contains four pages and circulates in all the important cities of Rajasthan. The paper is published at its own press giving employment to three skilled labourers.

AJMER TIMES—This Hindi weekly was started in the year 1960 by Shri Brahma Nand Pinar Singhani. The paper is pro-Congress. Circulation has remained stationary at 1,000 from the first year till this date. It circulates all over Rajasthan and in the cities and towns of Bombay, Agra, Lucknow and Kanpur. The paper is published at its own press giving employment to 10 skilled and three unskilled workers. The paper contains four pages.

THE JAGRAN—This Hindi weekly was started in the year 1960 by Shri Bhuvendar Burwa. It is edited, owned and published by Shri Ghisu Lal Bharti. The paper is pro-Congress and contains local news and current affairs. Circulation has increased from 500 copies in the first year to 1,000 at present. It contains four pages and is published at Sarvodaya Printing Press.

THE KISAN SEVAK—This pro-Congress Hindi weekly, was started in the year 1960 by Shri Chhagan Lal Gahna, who is its present editor and owner. Circulation has increased from 500 copies in the first year to 1,000 copies at present. The paper circulates all over Rajasthan, especially in the rural areas, as it gives expression to the grievances of the peasants.

HINDVASI (WEEKLY)—The publisher and printer of the paper is Shri K. J. Motwani and editor Shri Shivanand Shewakram. The paper is published both in Sindhi and English. It is published at Padam Art Printers, Ajmer. It contains news and current affairs.

RASHTRAVANI—It was started on 1st April, 1950 as a monthly literary magazine. It was converted into a weekly in 1954 as an official organ of the Ajmer Pradesh Bharat Sewak Samaj. In 1962, its proprietary rights were acquired by Shri Kailash Bernwal. It has a circulation of 2,000 copies per week. It is a political and news weekly. Price of a single copy is 15 nP. and annual subscription is Rs. 8. It is the only weekly in Ajmer district, which is approved for Central, State, Railway and Post and Telegraph advertisements. Shri Kailash Bernwal is its Editor. It is printed at National Printers, Ajmer.

RAJASTHAN BUILDER (WEEKLY)—It is published in English and Hindi. Shri Mohan Singh Chawla is its editor and publisher, while it is printed by Sadhu Singh and owned by Ajmer-Merwara Contractors Association. Its circulation is 500.

GANDHI DHAM GUIDE (WEEKLY)—It is published in Sindhi. Shri Narain Dass is its editor, publisher and owner while it is printed by Shri Sugnomal Pawandass, at Ashoka Printing Press, Ajmer. Its office is located on Plaza Road, Ajmer.

QURBANI (WEEKLY)—It is published in English, Hindi, Sindhi and Punjabi languages. It was started on 1.4.1952. Shri Sadhu Singh is its editor, publisher, printer and owner and is published at his own printing press named Qurbani Printing Press. Its circulation is 1,800 copies per week.

THE UJALA—This independent Sindhi weekly was started in the year 1961 by Shri Ghansham Dass Manglani. Circulation has increased from 500 copies in the first year to 1,500 copies in 1960-61. The paper is circulated within Rajasthan only. It is printed at Shiv Printing Press, Ajmer.

HINDUSTAN—This Sindhi weekly is printed at Aryan Printing Press. Its circulation is 1,850 copies. Shri Dinomal Mehta is its publisher, editor and owner and Dr. Bhagwan Dass is its printer. It contains local news and information regarding current affairs.

JAKARTA—This Sindhi weekly is printed at Ashoka Electric Printing Press, and is having circulation of 300 copies. Shri Tejbhan Dass Sharma is its publisher, editor and owner. It is printed by Shri Zahur Mohammad.

JAI HIND—This Sindhi weekly is printed at Padam Art Printers, and its circulation is 1,950 copies. Shri Khilumal T. Gurnani is its publisher, editor and owner. Shri Shivnand Shevakram is its editor.

JANTA—This Sindhi weekly is printed at Raj Kamal Printing Press. Its circulation is 1,500 copies. Shri Pohumal Isardass is its publisher, editor and owner, while Shri Nathirmal Nanumal is its printer.

ELAN—This Hindi fortnightly is printed at the Ajmer Printers. Shri Kishore Lal Sharma is the editor, publisher and owner of the paper, while it is printed by Shri Jeevan Singh Bhati. Its circulation stands at 1,491. The paper covers local news and articles on current affairs.

MAHESH METAL SMASHER—This Hindi fortnightly is printed at the Aditya Press. Shri Kedar Nath Khandelwal is its publisher and editor, Shri Vishwa Deo Sharma its printer and Shri Brahm Dutt its owner. Its present circulation is 429 copies. This is the only paper, published from Kishanganh town and gives market report of Kishanganh mandi (Madanganj).

COLLEGE TIMES—This fortnightly magazine is published both in Hindi and English by the students and the staff of Government College, Ajmer. Shri J. M. Sequeira is its publisher and editor and Devi Dayal Mathur is its printer.

Monthly

THE LAHER—This is a literary Hindi monthly only, one of its kind in Ajmer having the largest circulation among the literary magazines published in Rajasthan. It was started in the year 1957 by Shri Prakash Jain, who is the editor and the owner of the magazine. Beginning with 1,100 copies, circulation now exceeds 7,145 copies. It circulates all over Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, U.P., Bengal and Bombay. An issue now contains about 95 pages, an increase of 19 pages over the first few issues. The magazine spearheads the modern literary trends, in the Hindi poetry and maintains a high standard of publication. It is published at Sasta Sahitya Press.

ARORAVANSHI SAKHA—It is published in Hindi language at Gajmand Printing Press, Beawar and its annual subscription is three rupees. Its printer and publisher is Shri Bhanwar Lal and editor and owner is Shri Misri Lal Arora 'Sant'. Its circulation is 10 copies and is a community paper.

ARYA PREMI—It is published in Hindi language at Vedic Yantrala and covers literary and cultural discourses. The following persons are associated with this periodical: Vaidya Mohan Arya Premi as its publisher and editor, Shri Bhagwan Swaroop as its printer and Hakim Mohan Lal Veerumal Arya Premi as its owner. Circulation stands at 2,000 copies.

CINE TASWEER—This periodical is printed in Hindi at Ashoka Press and covers film news. Shri Pochi Ram is its editor, publisher and owner, while Suganmal P. Jethamalani is the printer.

GAUTAM SABHA—This periodical is publishing in Hindi language and is printed at Job Printing Press. Shri Jagdish Prashad is its editor, publisher and owner. While it is printed by Pratap Singh. Its circulation is 1,000 copies.

VAISHNAV BRAHMIN MARTAND—The periodical is published in Hindi at Parvasi Printing Press. It gives information of interest to Brahmin community and is owned by All India Brahmin Mahasabha. Shri G. L. Divakar is its printer, publisher and editor.

ADIVASI UTHAN—The periodical is published in Hindi and English languages and is printed at Ashok Printing Press and is owned by Adivasi Lok Kala Mandal. It covers information regarding social welfare activities in and out side the district. Shri Framji Bhogavat is its editor and publisher. Shri Sugnomal J. Jethamalani is its printer.

KOLI RAJPUT—The periodical is owned by the All India Koli Rajput Mahasabha and is published both in English and Hindi languages and printed at the Ram Krishna Printing Press. Nearly 1,900 copies are circulated. The paper contains features of interest to Koli Rajput community. Shri H.K. Nathu Singh Tanwar, is its editor and publisher, while it is printed by Rewati Prashad.

MAITHIL BANDHU—This monthly is published in Maithli at the Maithli Bandhu Printing Press. Circulation is limited to 150 copies. Shri Raghunath Prasad Misra is its editor, printer, publisher and owner.

PARASHAR PRADEEP—This monthly is published both in Hindi and English at Dev Bani Printing Press, Pushkar. It has a circulation of 200 copies. Shri Savitri Prashad is its publisher, printer and owner and Shridhar Prasad its editor.

ST. ANSELUMS CALLING—This monthly is published both in Hindi and English and printed at Anselum's Press, Ajmer. It is owned by St. Anselum's College. Shri F. Castiline is its editor, publisher and printer.

ATMA DARSHAN—This monthly is published in Hindi, English and Sindhi and printed at the Amar Bharti Press, Ajmer. It is financed by the Vedanta Prachar Mandal (Vedanta Publicity Board). Shri Kedar Nath Sharma is its publisher, Shri Radhakrishin Pribdas printer and Shri Narain Dass Bhanbhani editor.

SAMYAK DRISTI—This monthly is published in Hindi, English and Marathi and printed at Maha Bodhi Ashoka Press. It has a circulation of 13,750 copies. The paper is owned by Maha Bodhi Ashok Mission. It published articles on Buddhist religion. Shri Yad Ram Chhawara is its publisher and printer, while Mrs. Quin Hoi Rahula is its editor.

SWASTHYA—This monthly is published in English, Hindi and Sanskrit and printed at Krishna Gopal Printing Press, Ajmer. It has a circulation of 782 copies. Its publisher and printer is Shri T. Nathu Singh and editor Shri Acharya Nityanandji. It contains articles on Medicine and Health.

GUJAR GAUR SANDESH—This periodical is published in Hindi language and printed at Gajanand Press. It has a circulation of 1,191 copies. It gives information on topics of interest to Gujar Gaur Community. Shri Bhanwar Lal Sharma is its publisher, printer, editor, and owner.

OSWAL—This monthly is published in Hindi language and printed at Veer Putra Printing Press. It contains articles and news items of interest to the Oswal community. It has a circulation of approximately 3,500 copies per publication. Shri Manmal Jain is its editor, printer, publisher and owner.

PAREEKH SANDESH—This monthly is published in Hindi language and printed at its own printing press, namely, Pareek Printing Press. It contains articles of cultural and literary nature. Shri Durga Prashad Sharma is its editor, owner, publisher and printer.

PAROPAKARI—This Hindi monthly is published by Dayanand Ashram Kaisarganj and printed at Vedic Yantralaya. Only 32 copies are circulated. It deals mainly, with the religious and philosophical discourses. The paper is owned by Paropkari Sabha Ajmer and is publish-

ed and printed by Shri Bhagwan Swaroop. Shri Mankaran Sarda is its editor.

AJMER GAZETTE—This monthly is published in Sindhi language and printed at Ashoka Press, Ajmer. It has a circulation of 1,044 copies. It contains local news and articles on current affairs. Shri Bansi Lal Jodharam is its publisher and owner, Shri Sugnomal P. Jethmalani its printer and Shri Parmanand Sadrangani its editor.

ARYA PREMI—This monthly is published in Sindhi and printed at Kesari Electric Printing Press. It has a circulation of 1,333 copies per publication. It is owned by the Aryan Pharmacy. Shri Mohan Lal is its editor and publisher, Shri Parumal its printer. It deals with literary and cultural subjects.

HINDU DHARAM PATRIKA—This Sindhi monthly is published at Ashoka Press, Ajmer. It has circulation of 1,585 copies per publication. Shri Anandram Shiwandass Kiswani is the owner and editor of the paper, while Shri Sugnomal P. Jethmalani is the publisher and printer.

KUMARI—This Sindhi monthly is printed at Padam Art Printing Press, Ajmer. It is a literary and cultural paper. Shri Bhojraj J. Motwani is the editor and owner of the paper, while Shri Kishan J. Motwani is the publisher and printer.

PHULWARI—This Sindhi monthly is printed at Amar Bharat Press, Ajmer. It contains articles for children. The magazine is owned by the branch of 'Balkan ji Bari' working in Ajmer. Shri Prabhudass Brahmchari is the publisher and printer of the magazine and Shri Dip Chandra is the editor. The monthly circulation is 2,000 copies.

Half Yearlies

ARUNODAYA—This half yearly school magazine is published both in Hindi and English and printed at the Keshav Art Printers, Ajmer by the students and the staff of the Government High School, Srinagar. At present, Shri Deo Dutta Ojha is the editor and publisher of the paper, while Shri Jogan Nath Yadav is the printer. Its circulation is 210 copies.

DAYANAND HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL MAGAZINE—This is a school magazine published both in Hindi and English and printed at Fine Art Press, Ajmer by the students and the staff of Dayanand Higher

Secondary School. Its annual subscription is Rs. one. Shri Navin Chandra Sharma is its present publisher, Shri Vishwa Deo Sharma is printer and Shri Jagdish Chander Sharma and Shri Jai Ram Shastri are its editors.

SARVODAYA SAMMUCHYA GRANTH—This magazine is published in Hindi and English printed at Aditya Mudranalaya (Printing Press). It has a circulation of 11,199 copies. It contains information regarding social welfare activities. It is published and owned by Shri Raj Narain Madhu, edited by Shri Kailash Bernwall and printed by Shri V. D. Sharma.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE MAGAZINE—This magazine is published by the students and the staff of the Government College, Ajmer, in Hindi, Urdu and English. Shri M. L. Malhotra is its present editor.

Yearlies

ADITYA—This magazine is published by the students and the staff of the Agrawal High School and printed at Job Printing Press. It has a circulation of 500 copies. Shri M. L. Joshi is the present editor.

CHETNA—It is a magazine published by the trainees and the staff of Government Basic S.T.C. Training School, Masuda and printed at Aditya Mudranalaya (Printing Press) in Hindi and English. Its circulation is 175 copies. Shri Chhatra Mohan Sharma is the editor of the magazine.

DAYANAND COLLEGE MAGAZINE—This magazine is published in Hindi and English by the students and the staff of the D.A.V. College-Ajmer and printed at National Press, Ajmer. Shri R. S. Verma is its present editor and publisher.

DAYANAND VIDYALAYA PATRIKA—This is a school magazine and printed at Aditya Press, Ajmer both in Hindi and English. Its circulation is 500 copies. Shri K. P. Sharma is the present editor and publisher.

GAUTAM HIGH SCHOOL PATRIKA—This is a school magazine published by the students and the staff of the Gautam High School, Hathibata, Ajmer both in Hindi and English and printed at Times Printing Press. Shri D. N. Sharma is the present editor.

GYAN LOK—This is a school magazine published by the students and staff of the Government Higher Secondary School, Ajmer both in

Hindi and English and printed at Sasta Sahitya Press, Ajmer. Shri M. P. Shrivastava is the editor.

SHALA PATRIKA—This is a school magazine published by the students and the staff of Government Jain Gurukul Higher Secondary School, Beawar. It has a circulation of 500 copies per publication. Shri Indra Narain Bhatnagar is its editor.

UDICHI—It is a school magazine published by the students and the staff of the Government Central Higher Secondary School, Ajmer in English and Hindi. Miss Shanti Devi Sharma is its present editor.

JEEVAN—This is a college magazine published by the trainees and the staff of the Government Teachers Training College, Ajmer in both Hindi and English and printed at Sasta Sahitya Press, Ajmer. Shri Hans Raj Vaishnav is its present editor.

PRASHIKSHAN DOOT—This is a school magazine published by Govt. Basic S.T.C. School, Deoli in Hindi and English and printed at Times Printing Press, Ajmer.

SANATAN DHARM RAJKIYA UCHA VIDYALAYA PATRIKA—This is a school magazine published by the students and the staff of the S.D. Government High School, Beawar in Hindi and English, at Gajanand Press, Beawar. It has a circulation of 300 copies. Shri R. K. Jha is its present editor.

PATRIKA—This is a school magazine published by the students and the staff of the Government Moinia Islamia High School, Ajmer in English, Urdu and Hindi at Aditya Mudranalaya, Ajmer. Shri Chanchal Dass Ramchandani is its present editor.

PRACHI—This is a school magazine published by the students and the staff of Arya Putri Higher Secondary School, Ajmer in Hindi, Sanskrit and English and printed at Vaidic Yantralaya, Ajmer. Its circulation is 350 copies.

Four other Hindi periodicals viz., *Savita*, *Pratima*, *Nav-Deepka* and *Mazdoor*, are also published from Ajmer.

The number of news papers and magazines of different periodicities is as below:—

Daily Newspapers	..	3
Biweekly	..	1
Weekly	..	24
Fortnightly	..	3
Monthly	..	23
Half Yearly	..	4
Yearly	..	13
Unclassified	..	4
TOTAL	..	<hr/> 75 <hr/>

Other Newspapers and Periodicals

The major national dailies are also sold in good numbers in Ajmer, Beawar, Kishangarh, Sarwar, Kekri, Pushkar, Masuda, Bhinai, Vijainagar and other towns of the district.

The main daily papers circulated are: the *Navbharat Times* and *Hindustan* from Delhi, *Rashtradoot* and *Lokvani* from Jaipur and *Vir Arjun* (Delhi) all Hindi papers, having an approximate daily average circulation in the district of 2,000, 900, 300 125 and 110 copies respectively. *Pratap* (Delhi) in Urdu and *Hindustan* (Bombay) in Sindhi also find some readers. *The Hindustan Times*, *The Times of India*, *The Indian Express* and the *Statesman* (all English) published at Delhi have an approximate average daily circulation of 1,100, 900, 700, 100 copies respectively.

The following weekly papers are also fairly popular: *Dharmyug* (Bombay), *Jagriti* (Bombay), *Saptahik Hindustan* (Delhi), *Urvashi* (Bombay), *Rajasthan Shikshak* (Jodhpur), *Senani* (Bikaner), *Gram Raj* (Jaipur), *Jwala* (Jaipur), *Yojna* (Delhi)—all in Hindi, *Hindvasi* (Bombay) in Sindhi, *Illustrated Weekly* (Bombay), *Screen* (Bombay), *Blitz* (Bombay), *Sunday Standard* (Bombay), *Eves Weekly* (Bombay), *Current Weekly* (Bombay), *Link* (Delhi), *Shankar Weekly* (Delhi), *Sport and Past-Time* (Madras), *Rajasthan Gazette* (Jaipur), all in English.

The following fortnightly magazines are also in demand: *Filmfare* (Bombay), *Famina* (Bombay), *Life* (U.S.A.), all in English.

The following monthly magazines and literary periodicals also find a good number of readers: *Prag* (Bombay), *Sarika* (Bombay), *Sarita*, *Sushma*, *Rangbhumi*, *Navchitrapat*, *Jogshaya*, *Indumati*, *Chitar-Lok*.

Chitar Lekha all in Hindi and published from Delhi. *Arun* (Moradabad) *Navnct* (Bombay), *Balak* (Patna), *Maya* (Allahabad), *Chanda Mama* (Madras), *Man Mohan* (Allahabad), *Raja Bhaiya* (Patna), *Gori* (Bombay), *Neharika* (Agra), *Vigyan Lok* (Agra)—all in Hindi and *Shama* (Delhi) in Urdu. *Competition Master* (Delhi), *Current Events* (Dehradun) *Readers Digest* (U.K.), *Women and Home* (U.K.), *English Digest* (U.K.), *Mother India* (Bombay)—all in English.

Other Voluntary Social Welfare Organization Institution

Early introduction of direct British rule in this district, created a climate suitable for prosperity and philanthropic and social welfare activities. To some extent, existence of two important pilgrim spots viz. *Dargah Sharif* and *Pushkar* also helped in drawing the attention of socio-religious workers. The stay and subsequent death of *Swami Dayanand* at *Ajmer*, made the town sacred in the eyes of all *Arya Samajis* who undertook social welfare activities. After independence, the Government started giving financial aid to Voluntary Social Organization which led to the establishment of various new social welfare institutions in the district. Most of them are located in *Ajmer* city. The more important ones are described below:—

PAROPKARNI SABHA—In 1881, *Swami Dayanand Saraswati* had appointed by a will, a body of twenty three persons with His Highness the *Maharana* of *Udaipur* as president, to carry on his work, after his death. This body was named '*Paropkarni Sabha*' and held its first meeting in December, 1883 in the *Udaipur House* of the *Mayo College*, *Ajmer*. It decided to establish an *Ashram* (institute) consisting of a college, a library, a hospital, an orphanage and lecture Hall to honour the memory of *Swamiji*. In 1889, the *Sabha* established a *High School* in the *Arya Samaj Building*. The *Sabha* also established an orphanage. This is the oldest social welfare institution in the district, having been founded in 1895. Since then the Institution has been looking after the children neglected by the society. The number of people who have so far benefitted from this institution is 9,000-6,000 men and 3,000 women. The Institution provides vocational training in tailoring and craftsmanship both to the girls and boys. It also provides educational facilities to all inmates, and the specially gifted children are encouraged to go in for University education. At present, sixty five boys are studying in schools and four in colleges. The institution also provides free boarding and lodging in two separate hostels for girls and boys. Various cultural programmes are organized to give the inmates opportunities of mixing up with children from outside. This helps in eradicating a feeling of inferiority complex in the destitute

children. At present, there are 83 inmates (68 boys, 13 girls and two widows) in the institution.

The main sources of income of the institution are the contributions from the public, earnings from the permanent assets of the Arya Samaj Organization and the products prepared at the vocational classes and aid from the Social Welfare Board, Social Welfare Department and Municipal Committee, Ajmer. The following is the statement of income and expenditure of the year 1960-61:—

Expenditure (in Rs.)		Sources of Income (in Rs.)	
Food	10,121.01	Monthly Subs.	1,017.69
Clothing	1,929.73	For fooding	818.62
Washing & Cleaning	994.91	Donations	4,463.96
Medicine	162.91		<u>6,300.27</u>
Education and		Grants	
Stationery	1,638.41	Central Social Welfare	7,000.00
Games & Sports	37.79	Social Welfare Jp.	4,000.00
Water	191.59	Devasthan Pratapgarh	175.00
Travelling expenses	122.62	Ajmer Municipal	
		Committee	600.00
	<u>15,198.97</u>		<u>11,775.00</u>
Carpentry	1,625.29	Tailoring Deptt.	1,297.50
Tailoring	2,374.81	Carpentry Deptt.	335.12
Salaries to staff	3,843.89	Interest and Dividends	41.91
P.F. Contribution	127.45	Rent for building	7,383.16
Repairs to building	658.08	Rent from wooden	
Printing & Stationery	202.26	sheet	9.62
Postage & Commission	48.88	Marriage forms	2.00
House tax	113.43	Deficit excess expenses	
Legal expenses	228.97	over income transferred	
Havan expenses	323.69	to balance sheet	1,809.28
Function's expenses	17.00		
Miscellaneous expenses	96.47		
Audit Fee	55.00		
Light	459.38		
Music	29.79		
Depreciation written			
off	3,550.50		
TOTAL Rs.	28,953.86	TOTAL Rs.	28,953.86

The following is the list of the staff working in the institution:

S. No.	Post	No. of posts	Pay
1.	Superintendent	1	100
2.	Manager	1	130
3.	Lady Supdt.	1	40 (with Boarding and Lodging)
4.	Clerk	1	35
5.	Peon	1	30
6.	Cook (female)	1	30
7.	Sweeper	1	27
8.	Gardner	1	2
9.	Music Teacher	1	10
10.	Tailoring Instructor	1	100
11.	Carpenter Instructor	1	100
12.	Nurse	1	5 (with Boarding & Lodging)
13.	Additional Staff	2 Door keepers, 1 clerk.	

There is a 21 Member Managing Committee of the Institute which supervises its activities and arranges for the required funds.

Other educational institutions run by the Sabha have been described elsewhere.

The Amalgamated Yateem Khana Moinia Islamia

This institution was established in the year 1908 A.D. It could not be ascertained if it had been registered at that time as the records have destroyed in the disturbances of 1947. However, it was registered in 1958 under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

Besides providing boarding and lodging facilities this orphanage imparts vocational training to the destitute children. The total number of the inmates at present is 26 (7 girls and 19 boys).

The expenditure of the institution is met by subscriptions, donations, building rents, donations in kind and grant from the Central Social Welfare Board and the municipality of Ajmer.

Indian Red Cross Society

A branch of the Indian Red Cross Society was established at Ajmer on 23rd April, 1915. On 6th August, 1960, election to the office bearers and members was held under the presidentship of Shri M.U. Menon, the then Commissioner, Ajmer, and six office bearers and five members of the executive were elected. A separate Committee of five members was formed for the Maternity and Child Welfare. The main activities of the society are to look after the sick-people and to give aids to the victims of natural calamities. The society distributes milk and medicines to the patients and toys to the sick children in the hospitals. A Red Cross Week is usually observed in December every year in schools and colleges of Ajmer when physical feats competitions, processions, symposia, fruit and flower shows are organized. A fund raising campaign is also organized every year in November by sale of Red Cross Flags. Training in First Aid is also imparted to the people and literature on "Health" is distributed to various educational institutions. Lectures are delivered to encourage hygienic ways of living among people. The office building of the society is under construction and would cost Rs. 80,000 on completion.

GUJARATI MAHAMANDAL HATHIBHATA, AJMER—This organization is running an institution known as 'Mahila Mandal' for the welfare of the women. The parent body was established in the year 1923 and registered in the year 1951. The administrative body of the organization is elected. The Mahila Mandal was started in the year 1960. The total number of persons benefitted through the institution was 20. The institution employs one teacher and one chowkidar.

HARIJAN SEVAK SANGH—A district branch of the all India Harijan Sewak Sangh was registered in the district in 1932. The main activities of the organization are to organise social functions and to encourage get together of various communities, by joint participation in community dinners. It also provides medical facilities and financial aid to the socially neglected and economically handicapped people. The main aim of the Board is to root out the evil of untouchability. The expenditure of the Harijan Sewak Sangh is met by the aid received from the Central Social Welfare Board, the State Social Welfare Department and from the All India Harijan Sewak Sangh. The paid staff consists of one trained nurse and one midwife.

Ajmer-Merwara Gram Seva Mandal, Ajmer

This Institution was established in 1937 and registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 on 5th April, 1947. The object of this Institution is to serve the people through the implementa-

tion of the so many constructive programmes as laid down by Mahatma Gandhi and as may be added to them from time to time by this institution. Among the items of the programmes of this institution, one is the upliftment of women. Under this item the institution is imparting vocational training to the Social unprivileged classes, so as to enable them to earn their livelihood and to become self supporting citizens of the nation.

The number of beneficiaries during the period 1956-57 to 1958-59, was as follows:—

Year	Vocational Training				
	Sewing	Ambar Charkha	Embroidery	Other vocations	Magan Chullah
1	2	3	4	5	6
1956-57	177	—	138	250	8
1957-58	162	37	85	197	5
1958-59	32	48	10	15	3

The staff consists of three teachers for imparting vocational training to the students. The expenditure of the institution is met through the aid from the Khadi Board and the Central Social Welfare Board, sale of the institution products and local donations.

SRI RAMKRISHNA ASHRAM—This institution was established in 1944 in Ajmer city. Its activities are of humanitarian, cultural and moral nature. It runs a dispensary and a library. Religious discourses are also organized on every Sunday. The institution also provides free lodging facilities to the poor children. The expenditure of the institution is met by public donations, grants from the municipality and the State Government. The Social Welfare Board used to give aid to the Ashram. However, no aid has been given by the Board after 1958-59. In 1958-59 the institution received a grant of Rs. 1,000 from Central Social Welfare Board, Rs. 400 from the Municipal Council, Ajmer and Rs. 2,100 from the Government of Rajasthan. The Ashram runs the following institutions:

1. A charitable dispensary in Adarsha Nagar. The number of the patients treated, during the year 1959-60 was 16,762.
2. A library in Adarsha Nagar in which the membership is free.

3. A hostel in the Ashram to impart spiritual and cultural education.

Besides running the institutions the Ashram gives financial aid to a few needy students.

POOR PATIENT RELIEF SOCIETY—This society was established in the year 1948 at Ajmer. The society has been registered under Societies Act No. XXI of 1960. The society gives medical aid, food and nursing diets to the women and children suffering from T.B. Aid in cash, is given to the poor families. The society also helps the poor students with books and tuition fees. The expenses are met by the grants received from municipality and from the Social Welfare Board and the membership fees.

INDIRA GANDHI NARISHALA, AJMER—This institution is patronised by the Harijan Refugee Panchayat, Ajmer. The present body was established in the year 1948, and registered under the Government of India Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 in the same year. The main activities of the institution are to organise social and cultural activities and to impart vocational training in embroidery, weaving, spinning and sewing to women. Nearly 52 women were benefitted through the organization in the year 1959-60. The expenditure of the institution is met by local donations, and grants received from the Central Social Welfare Board, the State Social Welfare Department and the municipality.

SEEVAN KALA VIDYALAYA—This institution is situated at Agra Gate in Ajmer. It was established on 1st October, 1949 and registered on 12th November, 1954. It is run by a local nominated committee. The institution employs one trained craft teacher, one headmistress, one music master and one accountant.

It prepares the students for the diploma course recognised by the Bombay Government. The successful candidates are appointed as craft teachers in the Government aided schools of the State.

The main sources of income are: fees from the students, sale of the books made in the Seevan Kala Vidyalaya and grants from the Social Welfare Board.

Following was the number of beneficiaries from 1955-56 to 1960-61 :

Year	Male	Female	Total
1955-56	22	51	73
1956-57	15	30	45
1957-58	19	59	78
1958-59	16	84	100
1959-60	14	140	154
1960-61	10	156	166

In the year (1960-61) the income from all the sources was Rs. 10,336.86 and expenditure Rs. 10,108.40.

Bharat Sevak Samaj

A branch of Bharat Sevak Samaj was established in the district in the year 1954. It gives aid to other organizations and has started the following activities:—

NIGHT SHELTER—A night shelter named 'Rain Basera' has been set up opposite the Railway station in Ajmer to provide night shelter to poor people at a nominal rent of 10 nP. per night. Every inmate gets a Darai Blanket and a pillow. Adult education classes are also run in the night for the benefit of inmates. The scheme is financed by the Social Welfare Board.

Under a project for urban welfare run by the Samaj, the following activities are being organised; creches for children, a female and child health centre, a female craft centre and an adult education centre. This scheme is also financed by the Social Welfare Board.

JAN SAHYOG KENDRA (PUBLIC CO-OPERATION CENTRE)—The centre was running at Pisangan which provided reading room facilities and organized various cultural programmes like "Bhajan Mandalics", discussions, film shows and meetings. Camps for students, non-school going children and teachers were organized at different places in the district usually during the summer and winter holidays to bring about a feeling of cohesion and emotional integration among various sections of people.

The Kendra had about 25 branches in the villages of this district dealing with sanitation, village plantations, drainage, compost pits, repairs of roads, reading rooms, cultural programmes, Mahila Mandals and children centres etc. etc.

However, Jan Sahyog Kendra became defunct in 1960 and in its place Lok Karya Kshetra is functioning at Sarwar (Panchayat Samiti Arain) which provides reading room facilities and organizes discussions, various cultural programmes like tournaments, public meetings film shows. It also gives wide publicity to the programmes like grow more food, co-operatives, plantation of trees, family planning etc.

This Kendra has its branches in nearly 30 villages which deal with drainage, sanitation, reading rooms, Mahilamandals, Children's Centre, compost pits, youth clubs, Adult Education, National festivals, village plantations, constructions of new roads, Panchayat Homes, drinking water wells, etc.

VIMUKATI JATI SUDHAR SABHA, AJMER—This organisation was established in 1955 and registered on 20th June, 1958. It aims at the upliftment of the ex-criminal tribes (Denotified tribes). It is running one Night School and one Adult cum-social education centre. Cultural and social activities are also organized to eradicate the feelings of untouchability. The income of this organization is derived from the donations, grants from the Government of Rajasthan and the cultural shows organized by the Sabha.

SHISHUKUNI—This institution was established in Ajmer in 1957 to impart teaching facilities by montessory method, to the children. The expenditure of the institution is met through the tuition fee and the grants given by the Social Welfare Board.

SAMAJ KALYAN SANGH—A branch of the Rajasthan Samaj Kalyan Sangh is shortly going to be established in Ajmer district. A school for deaf and dumb would be started where in such children, would get education by means of hearing aids and the guidance of a specially trained teacher. Most of the activities of the Social Welfare Board, would be taken up by this organization.

Walterkrit Rajputana Hitkarni Sabha

The princes and Sardars of Mewar, Bikaner, Karauli, Kishangarh, Marwar, Jhalawar, Jaisalmer, Alwar, Jaipur, Sirohi, Bundi, Tonk, Kota, Pratagarh, Dungarpur, Ajmer and Bhinai assembled at Ajmer in the year 1888 for the purpose of discussing arrangements for regulating the expenses incurred on the marriages, deaths etc. in the Rajputana States. In order to curb the social malpractices such as huge expenditure on tika ceremony, disputes arising in the payment of tyag, certain rules and regulations were formulated. It was also recommended that boys and girls should not be married before the age of 18 and 14 res-

pectively. It was suggested that the expenses on the occasion of death, should be on the following scale:

When the value of property owned is less than Rs. 1,000 $\frac{2}{3}$ rd of income.

When the property is worth Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 5,000 $\frac{1}{4}$ th of income.

When the property is worth Rs. 5,000 to 10,000 $\frac{1}{5}$ th of income.
Above Rs. 10,000 $\frac{1}{8}$ th of income.

The meeting proposed appointment of a committee in each state for ensuring implementation of these rules. In 1889, this society was named as Waltekrit Rajputana Hitkarni Sabha. The Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana acted as, its president and the Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara as its Vice-President. In order to make the rules and regulations popular and effective, local branches of this sabha were established in most of the native states of Rajputana. Most of the members were persons of high social and economic status. They with the aid of state administrations, ensured adherence to these rules and decisions and penalized defaulters by imposing fines and encouraging social ostracism. An annual meetings of the general body used to be held at Ajmer attended by delegates from various native states. In 1909, the following 17 states were represented at the meeting, namely; Ajmer, Alwar, Udaipur, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Bikaner, Bharatpur, Jaisalmer, Bundi, Karauli, Sirohi, Tonk, Banswara, Partabgarh, Dungarpur and Kishangarh. In year 1908-09 the sabha supervised 6,453 marriage and 2,002 funeral ceremonies amongst the Rajputs and 273 marriage and 167 funeral ceremonies amongst the charans and was satisfied that its rules were duly observed. The cases of default noted by the Sabha were:—

I. MARRIAGE:

(a) Rajput—

In respect of age	50
In respect of expense	47
In respect of tyag	15
In respect of number of wedding party	74
TOTAL	186

Pending cases	..	158
(b) Charan—		
In respect of age	..	3
In respect of expense	..	8
In respect of tyag	..	1
In respect of number of wedding party	..	1
TOTAL	..	13
Pending cases	..	9

II. FUNERALS:

(c) Rajput—		
In respect of expense	..	11
Pending cases	..	82
(d) Charan—		
In respect of expense	..	3

In 1936-37 the Sabha published a report containing upto date rules and regulations. Some of important rules are reproduced below:—

- (1) Rules shall be applicable to all Rajputs of Rajputana except the ruling princes and chiefs.
- (2) All the previous Rules of the Walterkrit Rajputana Hitkarni Sabha are hereby replaced.
- (3) The Honourable the Resident for Rajputana and Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara would respectively be the President and the Vice-President of the Rajputana Sabha.
- (4) The Rajputana Sabha shall meet at least once a year at such time and place as may be fixed by the president.
- (5) Each state in Rajputana shall be entitled to nominate one member to the Rajputana Sabha whose term would be for at least three years. Such member shall be nominated by the state from among the members of the local sabha of the state concerned.

- (6) In every state there shall be a local *sabha* consisting of atleast 3 members, of whom two shall be non-official Rajput Sardars and the third, an official who should as far as possible, be a Rajput. Majority of members of the local *sabha* should be non-official Sardars."

In the same year, new rules were formulated for limiting the expenditure on marriages and for eradicating other evil practices connected with the marriage ceremonies. The head of the family was required to get a certificate of observance of these rules and regulations before the marriage was allowed to be held. Those with an income less than Rs. 50,000 per year could spend up to 50 per cent of their income for the marriage of an eldest son and 70 per cent for the marriage of a daughter. The corresponding permissible limits for those having an annual income of more than five lakhs were 30 per cent and 60 per cent respectively. The permissible limit of expenditure was much less in case of the marriages of distant relatives. Limits were put on the distribution of *tyag*, charity and the procedure of distribution was also fully described. Persons whose annual income was less than Rs. 500 were exempted from the payment of *tyag* (calling fee) altogether.

The payment and receipt of *tika* (Betrothal) money was prohibited though presents given willingly, could be accepted. The defaulters were punished with fines. Rewards were given to those informing the *Sabha* about such defaulters.

The minimum ages for the marriage of boys and girls were fixed at 18 and 14 respectively. The maximum permissible age for marriage of girls was 25 year. The *Sabha* also tried to arrange the marriages. Restrictions were put on the widow and widower re-marriages. Attendance of servants in the marriage parties was also controlled, according to the status of sardars.

Parents or guardians of the girls were forbidden to accept any sums as *Rit*.

Expenses on funeral ceremonies were also controlled and list of penalties for various violation to rules was prepared.

PRINTING PRESS—There are 76 big and small Printing presses in the district, 12 of them are registered namely: 1. Vaidic Yantralaya.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

Ajmer

The town of Ajmer is situated in a valley and lies between $26^{\circ}27'$ north and $74^{\circ}37'$ East. The town is 490 kilometres north of Ahmadabad (982 kilometres from Bombay), 378 kilometres south-west of Agra, 444 kilometres south of Delhi via Jaipur and Bandikui, 378 kilometres via Phulera-Rewari cord line and 633 kilometres north of Khandwa—the four termini of the Railway system.

The ancient city with the frowning heights of Taragarh as a background, makes an effective picture when the hot weather has stripped the hills of all their covering. A change comes with the burst of monsoon, when the arid plain and the rocky hills are transformed by a covering of verdure which contrasts pleasantly with the blue of the sky. It is picturesque. The lakes of Ana Sagar, Visla and Foy Sagar are full; and the waterfalls of Chashma, Antedh-ki-Mata, and Baij Nath add to the beauty of the mountain scenery, the five hill streams of Chavinda, Agastaji, Gankund, Paenhkund and Kanbai and the trickling of water everywhere in the hills, extend tempting and irresistible invitations to the citizens to visit them in merry picnic parties. The sunset effects are at times, very striking. The most beautiful scene of all, is the Anasagar embankment and lake on a night when the moon is at its full and the marble chhatris of Shah Jahan are mirrored in the waters. The climate is cool and air fresh. The prevailing west wind rises over the ridge of the Aravallis and then descends over the lake, which acts as a natural thermo-antidote.

Ajmer derives its name from *Ajayameru* (the invincible hill). It is believed to have been founded by Ajaiपाल Chauhan in the 7th century. During Ajayaraja's rule in the 12th century, Ajmer emerged as an important city. He contributed so much to the development and growth of Ajmer by adding new palaces and temples that he came to be regarded as founder of the city. He built the fortress of Taragarh *Arnoraj*, also called *Anaji*, constructed the Anasagar bund. Prithviraj Chauhan was the last great Hindu ruler of North India before the Muslim conquest. The story of his romantic exploits and chivalrous deeds is contained in the famous bardic work, *Prithvirajraso* by Chand-bardai.

After Prithviraj's defeat at the hands of Mohammad Ghori, the latter sacked Ajmer in 1193. Its peace was again disturbed during Timur's hurricane invasion of India. Subsequently, it was seized by Rana Kumbha of Mewar. From 1470 to 1531, it came under the domination of Muslim rulers of Mālwa till it was seized by Maldeo Rathor, ruler of Marwar. Later, Akbar annexed it to the Mughal empire in 1556.

Akbar realised the strategic importance of Ajmer which, then commanded the main routes from the north and held the key to the conquest of Rajputana and Gujarat. Accordingly, he made Ajmer the headquarters for his operations in that region and constituted it into a Subah. Akbar visited many times the shrine of the great Muslim saint, Khwaja Muin-ud-din Chishti, in fulfilment of a vow that he would undertake such a journey if a son was born to him.

Ajmer is connected with a series of remarkable events. It was at Ajmer that Sir Thomas Roe, the ambassador of King James I of England, presented his credentials to Jahangir on January 10, 1616. Dara Shikoh, the eldest son of Shah Jahan, was born here and the war of succession among the sons of Shahjahan was won by Aurangzeb in the battle of Dorai near Ajmer in 1659.

Ajmer during the rainy season becomes a city of festivals and fairs. Besides the chief Hindu festivals of *Holi*, *Rakshabandhan*, *Dashera* and *Dewali*, a number of local festivals and fairs are celebrated here. The festival of *Gangaor* is one of them and is a peculiarity of Rajasthan. It is celebrated in honour of *Gauri*, wife of Lord Shiva, mainly by Mahajans and Rajputs. It lasts for about a fortnight generally in March when in almost every *mohalla*, fully adorned and decorated images of *Gauri* and *Ishwara* are exhibited. Ladies of the locality visit such places and have music and merriment. Four times the images are taken out to the public gardens and brought back accompanied by music. Two other festivals for the girls are the two *Teej*. These are celebrated generally in August when almost all families fix swings in their places and girls visit each other's friends, sing, enjoy the swing and have special diets. *Akhateej* is a festival in honour of the new grain and is celebrated in May when the new grain comes out in the market.

The chief Mohammedan festivals, with the exception of the Moharram, the *Shabarat* and the two *Ids*, are the *Uurs* of *Khawaja Sahib* and *Miran Sahib*; *Urs* of *Khawaja Sahib* attracts people from far and wide, even from foreign lands.

Other main fairs held in Ajmer are: *Jalzum Ekadeshi*, *Sil Sap-tami*, *Tejaji Fair*, *Anter ka Mela*, *Chamunda ka Mela*, *Ajaipal ka Mela*, *Bajranggarh ka Mela*, *Babugarh ka Mela*, *Koteswar Mahadeo ka Mela*, *Dashera Fair* and *Bajinath Fair*. Local fair of the peasant classes is held at Dorai, a village about 3 miles from Ajmer.

Ajmer is well known for its old institutions. The Government College is the oldest college of Rajasthan. In all, Ajmer has four colleges out of which three offer post-graduate facilities. There are three Multipurpose Higher Secondary Schools and 15 Higher Secondary Schools, three High Schools, 12 Middle Schools. It has nine Hospitals. Ajmer has a Loco Workshop and also has the offices of Divisional Superintendent, Western Railway. According to the Census of 1961, Ajmer has a population of 2,30,999.

Archeologically, Ajmer is one of the richest districts in the whole of Rajasthan. There are as many as eight objects of national interest in the district maintained by the Department of Archaeology and about 40 other monuments, sites, relics etc. taken care of by the Government of Rajasthan.

ADHAI-DIN-KA-JHONPARA—Starting from the city of Ajmer itself, the most important is a mosque known by the famous name of the Adhai-din-ka-jhonpra or 'Two and a half days' shed. It consists of a quadrangle cloistered on all the four sides, having on the inside, a front screen-wall of seven pointed arches. Originally, a famous seat of Sanskrit learning (*pathshala*), this wonderful quadrangle possessed a huge Brahmanical temple as is clearly evident from the numerous Brahmanical divinities unearthed from the area, in course of various excavations by A. Cunningham, D. R. Bhandarkar and others. Tradition has it that when Shahabuddin Muhammad Ghori was passing that way, he ordered that it should be ready for him to pray on his return after two and half days. Thus the original structure was transformed towards the end of the 12th century A.D., to be the finest and largest specimen of the early Muslim Mosque that now exists. "There is no building in India" remarks General A. Cunningham "which either for historical interest or archaeological importance, is more worthy of preservation."¹

Whatever may be the origin of the mosque, there is no denying the fact that the present Urdu name of the Adhai-din-ka-jhonpara is not an old one. Some people say that the name is so as the *fakirs* from

1. Archaeological Survey of India Vol. II, page 263.

different places took up their temporary residence here when visiting Ajmer. The original pillars and the roof of this pre-muslim structure, were permitted to remain but the rest of the original portions were demolished and much of the carving on the remaining pillars, defaced. A screen or facade of remarkable beauty was erected, and forms the front of the present mosque, which was surrounded further by lofty cloisters with a tower at each corner of the quadrangle. The cloisters have largely fallen down and the surviving portions of the towers are very imperfect. The facade of the mosque, however, and the mosque itself, are in good preservation, having been extensively repaired during Lord Mayo's Viceroyalty, while considerable further restorations were carried out in 1900-1902. This magnificent mosque at Ajmer is of about the same time as the Kutab mosque, near Delhi and is one of the best specimens of the early mosques of its kind. In the words of Fergusson¹ "Nothing can exceed the taste with which the Kufic and the Tugra inscriptions are interwoven with the more purely architectural decorations or in the manner in which they give life and variety to the whole without ever interfering with the constructive lines of the design. As examples of surface decoration, the *Jhonpara* and the mosque of Altamash at Delhi are probably unrivalled. Nothing in Cairo or in Persia is so exquisite in detail, and nothing in Spain or Syria can approach them for beauty of surface decoration".

In the words of Dr. Fuhrer² "The whole of the exterior is covered up with a network of tracery so finely and delicately wrought that it can only be compared to a fine lace." The following description of this unique structure by an Archaeologists like Alexander Cunningham will be of real interest from the architectural and antiquarian viewpoints: "For gorgeous prodigality of ornament, beautiful richness of tracery, delicate sharpness of finish, laborious accuracy of workmanship, endless variety of detail, all of which are due to the Hindu masons, this building may justly vie with the noblest buildings which the world has yet produced."³

In course of excavations conducted by Cunningham in the compound of the *Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpara* were found a few black stone tablets which are finely inscribed with portions of the two most important Sanskrit dramas called *Harakeli Natak* and *Lalita Vighararaja Natak*, assignable to the middle of the 12th century A.D. The

1. History of Eastern and Indian Architecture, page 513.

2. Archaeological Survey Report (N. W. P.) for 1893.

3. Ibid Vol. II page 263.

former was composed by the famous Chauhan King Vigraharaja of Sakambhari and the latter by Somadeva-his court poet. Regarding Harakeli Natak, Dr. Kielhorn¹ remarks that "actual and undoubted proof is here afforded to us of the fact that powerful Hindu Rulers were eager to compete with Kalidas and Bhavabhuti for poetical fame." All these slabs are at present, on display in the Inscription Hall of the Rajputana Museum at Ajmer under Nos. 252, 253, 254 and 255.

From Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpara also have been collected for the Rajputana Museum at Ajmer about one hundred sculptural relics consisting of fragmentary images and various architectural pieces including pillar-shafts, *smalakas*, *Krittinukhas* and other decorative carvings. Even today, many more similar pieces are lying scattered over in this quadrangle of the Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpara. All the objects clearly prove beyond doubt that the Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpara had originally well built temples constructed much earlier than the 11th century A.D. when it was recognised as a place of Sanskrit learning and culture. In fact, in this early Muslim Mosque of India which grew up out of ruins of Brahmanical and Jain temples towards the end of the 12th century A.D., were utilised numerous ornamental stones, architectural pieces from the destroyed and transformed temple establishment.

A few interesting and typical sculptural objects collected from the Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpara are:

(a) An interesting mediæval sculpture representing figures of such rare deities as Kala, Prabhat, Madhyahna, Aparahna, Sandhya as well as Magha, Purvaphalguni, Uttaraphalguni, Hasta, Chitra, Svati and Visakha Nakshatras in the following order:—

1. Magha sitting in Sukhasana (No. 10 in the list of 27 Nakshatras).
2. Purva-Phalguni (No. 11 in the list of 27 Nakshatras).
3. Uttar-Phalguni in Sukhasana (No. 12 in the list of 27 Nakshatras).
4. Hasta in Sukhasana (No. 13 in the list of 27 (Nakshatras).
5. Chitra in Sukhasana (No. 14 in the list of 27 Nakshatras).
6. Svati in Sukhasana (No. 15 in the list of 27 Nakshatras).
7. Vaisakha in Sukhasana (No. 16 in the list of 27 Nakshatras).

This rare relief, though partly broken (present size 1' 10" × 1'), is an iconographic masterpiece recovered from the excavation conducted by Dr. D. R. Bhandarkar, according to whom "It is impossible to

overrate the importance of this piece from the iconographic point of view." Carved delicately, there are names of the deities also inscribed below them.

It is worth mentioning here that while referring to it in a special number of MARG on the Rajasthani Sculptures, Shri Mulkraj Anand adds the following appreciative caption.

"This relief in Ajmer Muscum is carved of intricately related figures, obviously intended for decorative effect. It rises above mere adornment by the delicate application of the chisel to achieve a composition which is compact and balanced."

(b) Defaced architectural piece (present size 1'9" × 1'5") with Siva Nataraja finely carved inside a niche: (Rajputana Museum No. 1(39) (243). The Nataraj (Supreme Dancer), is represented in his Tandava with a trident in his right hand, whereas his left hand (badly mutilated) is spread gracefully across his body in rhythm of dance. Specially noteworthy are dancing postures of two attendants on either side an ecstasy of amazed Nandin (bull) just below folded left leg of Siva (almost touching his other leg). Shri Mulkraj Anand rightly remarks—"Though badly defaced the dance pose deserves special attention".

(c) Siva (height 3') with three visible faces (wearing *jata mujuta*) sitting cross-legged in meditation with soles of his feet upturned (Rajasthan Museum No. 1 (43) (575). Below his full blown lotus seat is couchant Nandin (Bull). Siva has many kinds of ornaments and a garland of skulls hanging down below the couchant bull. He has eight hands which are all broken.

(d) A Fragmentary architectural piece (present size 2'4" × 2'4") representing a terror inspiring figure of *Chamunda* standing on a human body. Her emaciated body-ribs and the two breasts being specially prominent, have been so depicted as to add to our scene of horror. She holds in her four hands, *Damru*, *Trisula*, *Khatvanga* and human head. On her either side are two standing female attendants (Rajputana Museum No. I(90) (72).

(e) A finely-worked relief with standing *Kuvera* on a full-blown lotus (present size 2'2" × 1'7"). He is well-draped and elaborately ornamented. His head and hands are completely broken. An animal (much defaced) is there near his right leg which may be his vehicle elephant.

Though much mutilated in this Mediaeval piece, enough remains to testify to its real sculptural value (Rajputana Museum No. I (79) (250).

It may be of some interest to note here that a visit to the *Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpara* and the sculptural finds recovered from the same area consisting of numerous Vishnu, Siva and Sakti figures of Brahmanism specially adorning numberless pillar-fragments and various architectural pieces dug out there, lead convincingly to the view that it was originally a Hindu structure. In the face of such conclusive Brahmanical remains, it is really puzzling how some previous scholars could ignore the Brahmanical character of the earlier structure which once stood over this site and preferred to associate them with Jainism. But as rightly held by Dr. Cousens of the Archaeological Survey of India—"the work is not of Jama origin". In view of finding out of so many images, carved pieces etc. of clearly Hindu characteristics, there is good reasons to conclude that "It is distinctly Brahmanical."

ABDULLAH KHAN'S TOMB—Close to the Railway Station of Ajmer stands a white stone building of the later Mughal period commonly known as "Abdullah Khan's Tomb"—a mausoleum of Abdullah Khan father of Husein Ali Khan, the Minister of King Farrukh Siyar. It was built in 1710 A.D. Opposite to it is the tomb of Abdullah Khan's wife, in polished white marble, which though small in size, yet in elegance, purity of design and workmanship, equals the finest buildings existing anywhere. In the words of Mr. Garrick "the perforated screens surrounding the sarcophagus of this tomb are equal in workmanship to anything I have seen, and the marble is of the finest quality¹."

AJAIPAL—Ajaipal or Ajaipalji, as it is commonly called, is a most picturesque spot in the environs of Ajmer, situated about four miles to the south of Foyasagar and is held in great sanctity by the Hindus. It is named after King Ajaipal, the founder of Ajmer, who after a long reign in the sixth century A.D., in his old age, became a sanyasi, retired to this place and passed the evening of his life in religious devotion.

The western end of the *Serpent Mountain* gradually lowers itself near Jaipal to greet the sloping spurs of the chain of hillocks, which enclose the Cheshma on the west and the south. The place is cool, quiet, full of tranquility, with rills of water trickling down the slopes of the enclosing hills which are draped in green during and after the

1. Archaeological Survey Report for 1883-84, page 47.

rains. There are two tanks, the upper one discharges its water over a miniature waterfall into the lower one from which flows a small stream under the refreshing shade of big trees. This beautiful glen attracts hundreds of men and women from Ajmer during the rains and is a popular place for picnics all the year round.

Passing the Foysagar and the village of Ajaisar, as one descends into the valley, a stone *ghani* (oil press) meets his eye in which, according to tradition, King Ajaipal used to throw non-Hindus who attacked or disturbed Hindus in the performance of their religious rites. The next object that comes into view is the *Chakra Kund*, full of sweet water, which flows into another tank, lying a few feet below it. Near the upper tank is the temple, dedicated to Ajaipal Baba. The King's image with *sota* (big stick) standing by it, is worshipped here and the offering made is *khopra* (coconut). On *Bhadrapad Sudi 6th* (the 6th day of the second half of the month of *Bhadrapad*), a big fair is held here, and people from Ajmer, Pushkar, Ajaisar, Bhaonta and villages nearby, pour into the valley to pay homage and offer worship to the founder of Ajmer. *Jogees*, that day, go round the houses of the Hindus in Ajmer and other places, asking for *Ajaipal Baba Ka Rot* (loaf of bread of Ajaipal Baba).

Near this temple and overlooking the *Chakra Kund*, is an old temple of Siva (according to the *Prithviraj Vijaya*, King Anaji built a temple of Siva here) built in the seventh century. A little below the Siva temple, is the temple of *Ruhthee Rani* (offended queen). The architecture of these temples resembles that of the Chauhan buildings at Delhi and Ajmer. Another small temple of Siva stands here. A few feet away, on a higher level, several *tibaras* have been built for the use of pilgrims and picnic goers. The shade of trees and a meandering stream of water provide comfort and rest. The way from Pushkar to Bhaonta passes through the valley.

ANA SAGAR—It is a lovely artificial lake, regarded as one of the finest beauty spots in India and which makes a visit to the city of Ajmer really fascinating. Named after Anaji Chauhan (a variant of Chahamana King Arnoraj, grand-father of the brave Prithviraj III), the construction of this lake dates back to the middle of the 12th century A.D. According to the *Prithviraja Vijaya Mahakavya*, the reigning monarch Arnoraj with the help of the Ajmerians staged a terrible massacre of a large number of his enemies who reached the vicinity of Ajmer. In order to purify the ghastly site of that horrible bloodshed, he had it filled up with water by damming up a rivulet named Chandra

which rises in the forest of holy Pushkar. This was how Anasagar originated. The importance of this great reservoir to an extremely dry place like Ajmer, can hardly be exaggerated.

Anaji's huge embankment erected with the people's help is indeed a fine example of corporate life in Ajmer at that time. If we closely study the early history of Ajmer, it becomes apparent to us how much this water-reservoir has contributed to the prosperity and development of Ajmer.

Ana-Sagar attracted the attention of the Mughal Emperors when they came to Ajmer. Jahangir and Shahjahan further beautified the embankment by the addition of balustrade on its wide bund, and five admirable marble pavilions. Of the five pavilions or pleasure-resorts, four are in fairly good state of preservation even to this day; the remains of the fifth have been existing only in a line of three doors. The embankment also, contains the site of the former *hamam* of the Mughal period, the floor of which still remains intact.

The works on the embankment were all swept away in the year 1901-02 after which the two south pavilions were rebuilt, the marble parapet completely repaired and renewed and the balustrade restored as far as possible to its original condition in which the Mughals had left them; strictly according to the rules of the conservation of the old monuments.

ANTED KI MATA—To the north of the Anasagar lake, about a mile and a half from the Residency, in a small valley between two hills, stands the temple of Anted Ki Mata. It is a picturesque place and during the rainy season, almost every day, people go picnicing there. At the mouth of the valley, the people of Ganpatpura (inside Madar Gate) and the shop keepers of Gavendishpura, Ajmer, have built Tibaras and a gate and dug a well for the convenience of people who frequent the place. A fair is held here every year on the Rakshabandhan day (August), when groups of people recite Kavitas (Hindi poems) all the way returning from the temples to the Daulat Bagh.

BADSHAHI BUILDING—The Badshahi Building was originally a Hindu building, to which verandahs were afterwards added. As it stands, it is a structure of the early Mughal period, without any pretention to architectural beauty and is so similar to the Audience Hall of the Magazine in its style and the material used, that both appear to be of the same period. The two are very similar in size and almost precisely similar

in detail. The pillars, brackets and *chajjas* of the *Badshahi Building* agree in almost every particular with those of the Audience Hall in the Magazine. The building was not intended to contain a tomb and it never contained one. A heap of debris in a corner of a room is now sometimes wrongly pointed to as a tomb. Nowhere is a tomb found existing in an insignificant corner of a room in a building expressly built as a mausoleum. Moreover, as Mr. Nickolls says: "The existence of two elaborately carved balconies one on the north and the other on the south side of one of the chambers—seems to indicate that the building was intended for habitation." And when we remember, as is recorded in the *Tabqat-i-Akbari*, that in 1870 A.D., Emperor Akbar built the *Daulat Khana*, i.e., the Magazine, and "his Amirs, Khans and other attendants at the Court, veid with one another in erecting buildings, and that His Majesty distributed villages and lands attached to the Ajmer administration amongst his Amirs to enable them to pay the expenditure on new buildings", we can safely infer that this building, recently christened "The *Badshahi Building*" for want of a more appropriate name, was built or converted by one of Akbar's Amirs for his residence.

The Building is situated in the *Naya Bazar* not far from the Magazine.

BADA PIR—Bada Pir is situated on the northern spur of the *Taragarh Hill*, just above the *Dargah* and is a prominent sight of Ajmer. The place is of recent origin. A hundred and fifty years ago, it was a bare rock. A *Musalman Faqir*, named Soonda, who lived in the ruins of a *morcha* (entrenchment) of the fort of *Taragarh*, is said to have gone from Ajmer to Baghdad and on his return, brought with him a brick from a building in the *Dargah* of *Piran Pir* there. At his death (about 1770), he asked that the brick might be buried with his remains. This was done. Dr. R. H. Irvine, writing a hundred years ago, and less than seventy years after the faqir's death, says that the faqir brought two bricks (from Baghdad) with him as relics; placing these under a tree, he lived there a pious life, and at length, dying during *Mahratta* rule, both Hindus and Muhammadans combined to erect the *Dargah*.

One Shaikh Madoo put up a small building here, and as the site commands a good view of the city of Ajmer, people began to frequent it, and the place became known as the *Chilla* of *Piran Pir*.

Jamshed Khan, an officer of Nawab Amir Khan, the first Nawab of Tonk, built the *dalans* facing the north. Later Asghar Ali, *Mutwalli*

of the place, built the present domed structure and the mosque and paved the courtyard. His successor, Hakim Irshad Ali, built a reservoir for water near the entrance gate and a *dalan*, and generally improved the place in 1859 A.D.

BAJRANG GARH—This is another sacred place of the Hindus, on the hill which stands at the head of the Anasagar lake near the water weir. It commands a magnificent view of the whole valley of Ajmer. The Hanumanji's temple on the hill is an old one. The Mahratta governor of Ajmer improved the place. Hundreds of people go there every morning and evening to worship the god and enjoy the superb scenery. It commands a fine view of the Anasagar lake and the Daulat Bagh. A big fair is held here every year on *Bhadrapad Vadi 3rd* (August or September).

BAPU GARH—On the hill called Bapugarh, to the left side of the Pushkar Road at the Anasagar valley, is situated a temple of Balaji. The hill appears to have derived its name from Bapu Scindia, the last Mahratta Subedar of Ajmer (1816-18 A.D.) A big Hindu fair takes place here on *Śravan Sudi 3rd* every year. Near the temple, there are *samadhis* of Hindu *sadhus* resembling tombs, similar to the *samadhis* in the Nagphanees to the left as we go to Foyasagar. A room near the western edge of the hill was long used for *chilka* (heliograph) till 1880 A.D.

CHAVANDA MATA—On the western slope of the hill which separates the Foyasagar from the *Chashma*, in a declension. There is a pretty spot, well wooded and restful with water running down the hills during the rains. A temple dedicated to the goddess *Chavanda* stands there, with a couple of *tibaras* and a reservoir, full of water. It is a favourite resort of people who go for an outing. Visitors to *Chashma* often come to this place, and then descend to Foyasagar. Every year on *Savan sudi 8th*, a fair is held here, when the goddess is worshipped by the people of Ajmer.

CHHATREES—Near the mouth of the *Antedh Mata ki gal* glen, on a small hillock, to the north of Anasagar lake, stands a group of *Chhatrees* and *Chabutras* (*thadas*), belonging to the Digambar Jains of Ajmer. Their *gurus*, *Acharyas*, *Bhattaraks*, and *Pandits* were cremated here and *thadas* (*chabutras*) and *chhatrees* with foot-marks, were erected on the remains. On every *chhatri*, there are foot-marks with small inscriptions. These inscriptions are of great historic value, inasmuch as they show that in the eighth century of the Christian era, the town of Ajmer existed, and Jainism flourished here.

The oldest inscription is dated the S. 817 (A.D. 760) in a *Chhatree* commemorating the death at Ajmer of P. Hemraj, disciple of Bhattarak Ratna Kirtiji. Next in time, come the three inscriptions of the ninth century A.D.:—

V.S. 905 (A.D. 845) Commemorating the death of Bradh Chandji,

V.S. 911 (A.D. 854) Commemorating the death of Shiveramji.
(Chabutra),

V.S. 928 (A.D. 871) Commemorating the death of P. Tulsiramji.

After these come two other inscriptions, dated V.S. 973 (A.D. 916) in Bhattarak Vijaya Kirtiji's *Chhatree* and that dated the *Jeth Vadi 9th* S. 1027 (A.D. 970) of Mandalacharya.

These are followed by an inscription of the twentieth century, dated the *Vaishakh Sudi 13th* V.S. 1228 (A.D. 1171) in the *Chhatree* on Acharya Sri Rajkirtiji. Then there is a break and the next inscription is of the sixteenth century, of *Phalgun Vadi 5th*, S. 1572 (A.D. 1515) in the *chhatree* on Bhattarak Ratnakirtiji. Then follow two inscriptions of *Magh Sudi 5th*, S. 1766 (1709 A.D.) and *Ashadh Sudi 5th*, S. 1782 (1725 A.D.) on the *Chabutras* built over the remains of Bhattarak Ratnakirtiji and Acharya Vishalkirtiji respectively. Next follows ten inscriptions as below:—

That dated *Phalgun 11th* S. 1801 (A.D. 1744) on Bhattarak Kirtiji.

That dated *Phalgun* S. 1810 (A.D. 1753) on Bhattarak Annant Kirtiji.

That dated *Phalgun Magh Sudi 1st*, S. 1810 (A.D. 1753) on Bhattarak Vidyandaji.

That dated *Phalgun Mangsar Sudi 13*, S. 1813 (A.D. 1756) Acharya Ratna Bhushanji.

That dated *Phalgun Shrawan Vadi 1st*, S. 1814 (A.D. 1757) Acharya Devendra Kirtiji.

That dated *Phalgun Shrawan Vadi* S. 1828 (A.D. 1771) Acharya Raj Kirtiji.

That dated *Phalgun Kartik Sudi 2nd*, S. 1821 (A.D. 1764) Acharya Tilak Bhushanji.

That dated *Phalgun Magh Sudi S. 1810* (A.D. 1755) Bhattarak Bhuvan Bhushanji (*Chhatree*).

That dated *Phalgun Vadi 4th, S. 1829* (A.D. 1772) on Vijay Kirtiji (*Chhatree*).

That dated *Phalgun Asoj Vadi 14th, S. 1837* (A.D. 1780) on Tilokendra Kirtiji (*Chhatree*).

Then following three inscriptions of the nineteenth century, one *Maha Sudi 5th, V.S. 1892* (A.D. 1835) on Bhattarak Ratna Bhushanji (*Chhatree*). The second dated *V.S. 1901* (A.D. 1844) on P. Pannalalji and the third dated *V.S. 1928* (A.D. 1871) on Bhattarak Padmanandji, desciple of Navnidhi.

An *Utsava* or religious gathering of the followers of the sect takes place here on *Ashwin Vadi 4th*, every year.

CHILLA KHAWAJA SAHIB—On the way to the Hindu temple of Khobra Bheroon, near the valley of Ana Sagar, is the *Chilla* of Khawaja Sahib. It is said that the Khwaja on his arrival at Ajmer took up his residence at this place and was here till he moved to the place where he lies buried. For four hundred years, a cell and a flat stone slab marked this place as associated with the Khwaja. In 1628 A.D., Daulat Khan, a relative of Mohabat Khan, *Subedar* of Ajmer, built a small enclosure and paved the floor. An inscription of six verses on the door, says that it was put up during the time of Shah Jahan by Daulat Khan in A.D. 1628 and during the last ten years (1950-60), the hermitage has been greatly extended by the addition of new buildings.

CHILLA MADAR SHAH—This is situated on the Madar Hill, to the east of the city of Ajmer. It was originally a Jain monastery of *Jaman Yati*, the *chhatree* raised over whose remains, still stands. It is said that one Syed Basiuddin, alias Shah Madar, passed some time in devotion at this place, and that he afterwards migrated to Makanpur, near Kanauj. There is a tree near the *chhatree* which is called "the gram tree", because its leaves resemble the leaves of the gram plant. The place is unpretentious but its position on the summit of the hill, which is about seven hundred feet high, makes it a prominent object in the landscape. The date of the original Hindu monastery or of the present *chilla* is unknown; but it appears that the present small domed building was put up some time during the Mughal rule in Ajmer. The hill is mentioned in *Fatooli Alamgiri* as Madar Dunger.

CHILLA QUTAB SHAH—This is situated near the Ana Sagar embankment, opposite the western entrance to the conservatory of the Daulat Bagh and is said to be the place where Khawaja Qutbuddin Bakhtiar Kaki, the disciple of Khawaja Moin-ud-din Chishti, used during his visit to his preceptor at Ajmer, to pass his time in devotion. Khawaja Qutubuddin lived in Delhi and died there in 1237 A.D. (*Tarikh-e-Farishta*, Vol. II, page 382). In 1776 A.D., Maulvi Shamsuddin, a disciple of Maulvi Fakharuddin of Delhi, built a mosque with a domed roof here. In the courtyard, at a lower level than the mosque, is an enclosure containing the tomb of Muhammad Shah Khan, an officer of Amir Khan, Nawab of Tonk. Muhammad Khan, the deputy of Muhammad Shah Khan, built a mosque here in 1824 A.D.

DADABARI—The Dadabari is a memorial to the Svetamber Jain divine Jindatta Suri, who was born in S. 1179 (1122 A.D.) and died at Ajmer on *Ashadh Sudi 11*, S. 1211 (1154 A.D.) Mohan Lal Duli Chand Desai in his Gujarati Short, *History of Jain Literature*, p. 233, says that Jinvallabh Suri's disciple, Jindatta Suri converted a large number of Rajputs to Jainism. He was known as Dadaji. Agar Chand Nahata of Bikaner in his Yuga Pradhan Jinchandra Suri, says: "In the Khartargachha sect of the Jains was born Abhaideva Suri whose disciple was Jaivallabha Suri, who died on *Kartik Vadi 12*, S. 1169 (1112 A.D.) Jinvallabh Suri's disciple was Dada Jindatta Suri who died and was cremated at Ajmer on *Ashadh Sudi 11th* S. 1211 (1154 A.D.) After Dada Jindatta Suri, the place came to be known as *Dadabari* or the Garden of Dada.

The *Dadabari* is an enclosure, standing on the eastern embankment of the Visla lake at Ajmer, and contains a temple of Paraswanath. On the image is inscribed, "V.S. 1535, *Asar Sudi 6th*" (1478 A.D.) Mr Puran Chand Nahar, in his collection of Jain Inscriptions, quotes this inscription and says than on *Asar Sudi 6th*, S. 1535, Oswal-Shasajan and his wife Paru, and their son and the son's wife Lalande, installed in the temple, the idol of Shantinath of Tapogachha sect through Lakshmi Sagar Suri.

Inside the inner compound of the temple, there are some *chhatrees* and *Chabutras* built over the remains of Dada Anopchand, dated S. 1871 (1814 A.D.) and Seth Dhanrup Mal, dated S. 1909 (A.D. 1852). Outside this inner compound, there are *chhatrees* and *chabutras* built over the remains of some Oswals; the earliest is dated the S. 1872 (1815 A.D.) on a *chabutra* of Sagar Chand's foot-marks, and the latest of V.S. 1916 (A.D. 1859) on Seth Vaghmal's *chabutra*.

DARGAH KHAWAJA SAHIB—Not very far from the *Adhai-din-ka Jhonpara* is the holy *Dargah* of *Khawaja Muin-ud-din Chishti*, commonly known as *Khawaja Sahib* where holy tomb of the Muhammadan Saint named *Muin-ud-din Chishti* (12th century A.D.) is an object of pilgrimage and veneration to Muhammadans from all parts of India and abroad. Being the holiest of all Muslim Shrines in India (next in importance to holy Mecca), it attracts pilgrims from all parts of the country. Built in the beginning of the 13th century A.D., both the Mughal Emperors Akbar and Shah Jahan enlarged it by the addition of other magnificent mosques. It is stated that in fulfilment of a vow, Akbar came on foot to the *Dargah Khawaja Sahib* from Agra after the birth of his son—Salim. There are three original paintings depicting Akbar's visit to Ajmer on foot. One of them is in the Prince of Wales Museum at Bombay, and the other two are in the Rampur (U.P.) Darbar Library.

Annually, the Urs or death anniversary of *Khawaja Sahib Muin-ud-din Chishti* is celebrated for six days (from the 1st to the 6th day of Muslim Month of Rajab. At this time, more than one hundred thousand pilgrims visit Ajmer.

Near the huge gateway facing north, there are the large drums and brass candle stands, taken by Emperor Akbar after the sack of Chittorgarh and given by him to the shrine at Ajmer, for which Emperor Akbar had great regard. The saint's tomb is richly adorned with gold and silver. The construction of the *Dargah* was commenced in the reign of *Shams-ud-din Altutmash* (1211-1236 A.D.) and finished in the time of Mughal Emperor Humayun in the beginning of the sixteenth century A.D. The shrine of *Khawaja Sahib* is venerated and visited by Hindus as well as Muhammadans and other Indians irrespective of their religion.

DAULAT BAGH—While going to Pushkar from the city of Ajmer we come across an interesting Mughal garden known as *Daulat Bagh* (garden of wealth) and a lovely fountain in a square tank throwing water sprays from the centre whose origin as popularly believed perhaps goes back to the very beginning of the seventeenth century A.D.

FOYSAGAR—Another beautiful sight in Ajmer, partaking of lake scenery like the *Anasagar*, is the *Foysagar*. This lake was constructed in 1891-92 by the Municipal Committee of Ajmer as a famine relief work at a cost of Rs. 2,68,900 primarily, supply drinking water to

the people of Ajmer. It was constructed by damming up the river known as Badi Nadi. It takes its name from Mr. Foy, the executive engineer who was in-charge of the construction.

The lake is 24 feet deep and has a cubic capacity of 150 million feet and water spread of 14 million square feet. The height of the embankment is 39 feet. Its catchment area is about nine miles. In normal times, it supplies from six to seven lakh gallons of water daily, and in seasons of draught 3,50,000 gallons only. The lake is at a level higher than the general city level. When full, it contains sufficient water for the city for 18 months. There is a small garden to the north of the embankment. The whole scenery, owing to the close proximity of the hills on three sides, is very picturesque.

A small pavilion stands at the eastern end of the embankment for visitors to enjoy the sight. A boat is kept there. Buildings are springing up on both sides of the road to Foysagar, mostly pleasure gardens and country houses, as is also the case with the road to Pushkar which lies to the north of it and on which a number of *dhamshalas* and garden houses, have been built.

GANPATPURA—Ganpatpura is an old place of the early Mughal times, situated inside Madar Gate. It was a square with twenty seven domed apartments on its four sides, enclosing a large open space and an imposing gate. On both sides of the gate, there were vaulted *dalans* (sitting rooms with the fronts open). Behind the gate and connected with it, there was a domed porch with two vaulted *dalans*, one on either side. Akbar had built it as a sarai for travellers.

Rao Balarao Ingolia, the Mahratta governor of Ajmer, gave the place in 1806 A.D. to the Mahajans of Jatiawas—a *muhalla* outside the Madar Gate just then demolished, with a *sanad* authorizing them to build houses for themselves in it. The gate, the domed porch and the vaulted *dalans* still exist, but the twenty seven domed apartments have disappeared, and in their place, big residential houses adorn the place.

HATI BHATA—In the close neighbourhood of the Mugal Fort to the east stands a colossal elephant shaped out of a natural blackstone jutting out of surface. From the elephant-stone, a locality of Ajmer, owes its name as "Hati-Bhata". Tradition has it that due to keen artistic taste, Emperor Nur-ud-din Jahangir got this couchant elephant carved out and from the Persian inscription incised on the body of

this elephant in two lines, we find the date U.H. 1022 which corresponds to 1613 A.D. falling in the reign of Emperor Jahangir.

JHARNA—This is a beautiful spot in Inderkot ensconced in a depression in the Taragarh hill. A temple of *Jharneshwar Mahadeva* and a spring of sweet water, refreshing and cool, attract hundreds of Hindus every day. During the seasons of scarcity of water in Ajmer, Jharna is of great help.

KHOBRA-BHEROON—This is a Hindu temple of Bheroonji and is situated in a very picturesque place on a promontory near the southern end of Anasagar embankment and commands an excellent view of the lake and the Daulat Bagh. It is one of the oldest places in Ajmer. Jahan Ara Begum, in her account of Khawaja Muin-ud-din, mentions that the Khwaja on his arrival at Ajmer took up his residence near this temple. She and the Mussalman writers generally call the Bheroonji, "Shadideva" (marriage god), as it is customary with Hindu bridegrooms to visit this temple with their brides after the conclusion of the marriage ceremony. The significance of the name is interesting. Khobra is a Marwari term meaning mischievous, and Bheroonji is a god. Tradition has it that unless a newly-married couple promptly proceeds to pay their respects to him, this naughty god will play some prank to disturb their domestic felicity.

KOTESHWAR—On the western bank of the Sagarmati river, as it emerges from the Foyasagar and goes to the Anasagar, there is a configuration, of large flat rocks, bare of all vegetation, about fifty feet above ground, commanding an excellent view of the valley between the serpent mountain and the Taragarh hills. A temple of Koteswar Mahadeva stands there and an annual fair is held on *Sravan Sudi 13th* (thirteenth day of the second half of the month of Sravan). A feature of this fair is that people recite poems in Hindi all the way from the temple to the city.

MAGAZINE—The most important Mughal building of Archaeological interest is what we call today Magazine; situated in the heart of the city, quite close to the Railway Station. It is really a fort built by Emperor Akbar who had to come to Ajmer frequently to pay respects at the *Dargah* of Khwaja Sahib and in connection with his wars in Rajasthan. When he reached Ajmer in the year 1570 A.D., he improved and extended the fortifications of the city and had a palace built for himself. What is today commonly known by the name of the Magazine, is really the innermost portion of the fort built by Akbar.

Its main entrance faces Naya Bazar on the west and is provided with balconies (*jharoka*) on both the sides of the gate. On one of these balconies, Emperor Jahangir, during his stay at Ajmer, used to appear every morning to show himself to the assembled people below. From the balcony he heard even the poorest man's complaints. This interesting Mughal fort of Ajmer also reminds us of the embassy of Sir Thomas Roe who presented his credentials to Jahangir here on the 10th of January, 1616 A.D.

The imposing and magnificent gate with projecting balconies (*Jharokas*) where the Mughal Emperors used to appear in state and the four lofty octagonal bastions at each corner of the quadrangular structure, attracts special attention of every visitor. Regarding fine balconies, Sir Thomas Roe's words are worth quoting here¹ "the King comes every morning to a window looking into a plain before his gate and shows himself to the common people. One day I went to attend him. Coming to the palace I found him at the *Jharoka* window and went up on the scaffold under him, which place not having seen before, I was glad of the occasion. On two tresses stood eunuchs with long poles headed with feather fanning him. He gave many favours and received many presents. What he bestowed, he let down by a silk string rolled on a turning instrument; what was given him, a venerable flat, deformed old matron, wrinkled and hung with grimbells like an image, pulled up at a hole".

The interior of the quadrangle, was used as the residence of the Mughal Emperors during their visit to Ajmer and was the headquarters of the Administration, both in their times and in that of the Marathas. After the British occupation in the year 1818 A.D., it retained its special importance and at the time of the Sepoy Mutiny in the year 1857 A.D., it was specially fortified. According to Mr. J. D. La Touche's Settlement Report, 1875, it "was used as the Rajputana Arsenal" for which it has the popular name of the Magazine.

In the central hall inside Akbar's Fort where Sir Thomas Roe presented his credentials to Jahangir, is housed the sculptural section of the Rajputana Museum, Ajmer. This museum was started by the Government of India in the year 1908 with the object of collecting and preserving many unique object of antiquarian interest which were lying uncared and scattered over all parts of Rajasthan. It is now proposed to remove this section from the central hall to some other premises.

1. Embassy of Sir Thomas Roe by W. ed. Fosters.

The outer city walls of Ajmer are also connected with this Mughal building of Akbar's reign. These surround the city, and are pierced by five gates named the (a) Delhi (b) Agra (c) Madar (d) Ustri and (e) Tripolia gates. These gates were at one time decorated but the Delhi gate alone retains traces of its earlier decorations till today.

MAYO COLLEGE—It is situated at a distance of nearly two miles towards south-east of Post Office. This college was started for the ruling princes of Rajputana and named after Lord Mayo, the then Governor General of India in the year 1870. The building is of white marble. Its elevation is very impressive from the architectural point of view. The college has a museum displaying historical objects of interest and biological preservations.

PARTICULARS

1. ARMS

Spears, swords, daggers, guns, pistol and modern arms, shells etc.

2. ANTIQUITIES

(i) Plaster replicas of pieces of old Indian and Egyptian Civilization and real articles of 6th century A.D.—12th century A.D.

(ii) Stone and marble sculpture pieces of 1st and 2nd century A.D., 8th century A.D. to 12th century A.D.

3. PAINTINGS/PHOTOGRAPHS

(i) Old paintings of Rajasthan Schools—17th-19th Century Portraits in oils.

(ii) Photographs and prints of college and historical interest.

4. COINS/CURRENCIES

(i) Old coins of different periods of India and present coins of many foreign countries.

(ii) Currencies of Indian (old) and foreign countries.

5. NATURAL HISTORY

(i) Eggs of different birds.

(ii) Nests of birds and honey-comb and wasp nest etc.

- (iii) Preserved skins and stuffed birds and animals skins. (Preserved skins: by students)
- (iv) Animals, birds, reptiles, fishes and insects in specimen jars.
- (v) Skulls, horns, tooth etc.
- (vi) Butterflies and insects in specimen cases.
- (vii) Sea-shells.

6. FOSSILS

Preserved specimen of shells, plants and insects and animals etc.

7. ROCKS-STONE AND MINERALS

Specimen of Rocks and minerals.

8. DRESSES

- (i) Head dresses and caps.
- (ii) Garments and woven pieces.

9. VEGETATION AND HERBS

Different specimens.

NASIYAN (RED-TEMPLE)—The Nasayan is a modern Jain building consisting of a Jain temple and an imposing double-storied hall. The temple or *Sidhkut Chatalaya* to call it by its orthodox name, is a Digambar Jain temple. Its foundation was laid on 10th October, 1864 and it was completed in 1865 A.D.

Just behind this temple is the *Svarna Nagari Hall*, containing gilt-wooden representations of scenes from Jain mythology. These representations were manufactured at Jaipur and installed in the *Svarna Nagari Hall* in 1896.

The Hall is richly painted in beautiful colours and the walls and the roofs are covered with glass mosaic work. It contains representations illustrative of the birth and life of Rishabdeva or Adinath (Eternal Lord), the first propagator of the Jain religion.

The southern half of the hall contains a representation of the city of Ajodhya with palaces in the centre and mansions for the nobles and citizens. To the south of Ajodhya is a representation of the city of Allahabad (Prayag), the *Tribeni* and the sacred banyan tree, and Rishabdeva in contemplation, having renounced the world.

Gods are represented as sailing in the skies in *Vimans* or airships; and on the northern wall of the hall is painted the *aphsara Tilotma*, in the act of dancing before Rishabdeva.

A Manstambha (pillar), 85 ft. high, plastered in cement and marble chips was erected in the Nasiyan, in front of the Sudhkut Chatalaya in 1937 A.D.

NUR CHASHMA—Lying to the west in the valley beneath Taragarh hill, is lovely Nur-Chashma, a garden house used by the Mughals for pleasure and sports. The narrow valley between two hillocks is called *Chasma-ki-Gal* at the entrance of which stands the ruins of Jahangir's pleasure resort built in 1614 A.D.

The massive water lifts erected by the Rathors of Marwar indicate clearly how from the *Chasma* (a perennial source of sweet water) Taragarh Fort has its water supply.

RAJPUTANA MUSEUM—The Rajputana Museum was started by the Government of India for proper preservation and study of the unique old relics collected from the various States of Rajputana (now Rajasthan) and also from Ajmer-Merwara (at present known as the district of Ajmer). The Rajputana Museum as it is significantly named, has in its galleries important exhibits from almost all princely States. There is also a library of rare books and important historical publications attached to this Museum.

The museum has at present, five main sections devoted to Sculptures, Epigraphs, Coins, Protohistoric antiquities, Paintings and Arms and Armours. Besides, there are objects from *Adhai-din-ka-jhonpara* and less important or duplicate exhibits in various godowns forming a reserve collection meant for exhaustive study.

(i) Sculptures constitute the most interesting section in the Rajputana Museum at Ajmer. The collection is enormously rich and varies, ranging from Gupta Period to the Late Mediæval Period. Mention

should be made here of interesting *Chaturmukh Savilinga*, *Vaivalika Murti* of Gupta Period from Kaman, *Lingodhava Mahesvara* from *Harashnath* and other fine *Siva Parvati* panels from Katara and Kusma (Bharatpur region). There are a number of *Surya*, *Vishnu* (including a Trimurti) *Hari-Hari Lakshmi-Narayana*, *Revanta*, *Kuvera* and mother and child images in the collection. Of the female figures, the *Saptamatikas*, *Mahishasurmardini*, *Kali*, *Jain Sarasvati*, *Ganesh Janni* and *Nagakanya* deserve special mention. An excellent collection of sculptures from Baghera, a 9th-12th century A.D. site in Ajmer district, are also preserved here. Rajasthan being an important centre of Jain Culture, a fine collection of *Tirthankara* images and a fine and rare image of *Gomukha Yaksha* and *Sarasvati*, has been possible for this Museum. Compared with this, we have only a few Buddhist objects in the Museum. Thus, the Sculpture Section of this Museum helps the visitors to have a clear idea of the plastic art and wealth of ancient Rajputana at a glance which can now be traced from Gupta Period to the late Mediaeval Period. The artistic genius and wonderful craftsmanship of ancient Rajasthani people, are very well reflected in the vast collection of this Museum.

(ii) The Epigraphical exhibits in the Rajputana Museum which number about one hundred, are unsurpassed in many respects in the whole of India. Of special interest among them are:

1. Brahmi Inscription from Barli (assignable to circa 4th century B.C.)
2. Samoli Inscription of Siladitya dated Samvat 703.
3. Jodhpur Inscription of Bauka dated Samvat 894.
4. Partapgarh Inscription of Mahendra pala II.
5. Two slabs inscribed with Harakeli Nataka.
6. Slab containing Lalita Vigharaj Nataka by Somdeva and
7. Barla inscription of Prithviraja Chauhan III dated Samvat 1234.

The earliest inscription in this Museum, the Barli inscription in Brahmi Script, is of the pre-Asokan time. It is one of the oldest inscriptions not only in Rajasthan but also in the whole of the country.

On the palæographic considerations this inscription can very well go with famous *Sohgaura Mahasthan* and other earliest inscription of the country. Another very important find is a collection of seven stone tablets discovered in the *Adhai-din-ka-Jhonpara*, Ajmer. They are dated the 12th century A.D. and throw considerable light on the Chauhan History. The four slabs containing *Harakeli* and *Lalita Vighararaja Nataka* are not only of exceptional importance from the historical point of view, but it has considerable interest too as a literary composition of Chauhan poets. The former was composed by the famous Chauhan King *Vighararaja* of Sakambhari and the latter, by *Somedeva* his court poet.

(iii) A number of important copper plates add to the value of this section. They include:

(a) Two copper plates of Maharaj Sarvanatha of Uchchhakalpa dated 191 (437-38 A.D. if referred to Kalachuri Era).

(b) Daulatpura copper plate of Pratihara Bhojadeva (Surnamed Prabhasa) dated Samvat 900.

(c) Two copper plates from Banswara (forming one grant) of the Paramara king Bhojadeva dated Samvat 1076.

(d) Copper plate of Rana Kumbha of Mewar dated Samvat 1494.

(iv) Of the early coins, there are punch marked, *Sibi-janpada*, Indo-Greek, Indo-Sassanian, *Kshatrapa*, Kushan and Gupta coins preserved in the coin cabinet of this Museum. This also contains coins of the Mughal and Pathan rulers.

(v) Paintings and Photographs section contains more than a hundred exhibits, including a dozen rare Rajasthani paintings of which *A Rajput Chief*, *Birbal*, *A Muhammadan Prince* and *Farrukshyar* deserve mention. These paintings (copies only) depict well known Rajput Kings. The photograph exhibit, however, are restricted to views of ancient protected buildings at Ajmer and its neighbourhood.

(vi) In the next section, there are typical specimens of Arms and Armour collected from many places of Rajasthan. They include bow and arrow, arrowheads, spears of various shapes, Spear-heads, swords of different varieties, Dhal, Daggers, Katras, Farsa, Zagnol, Guns and Muskets of various types. A helmet complete with nose-guard

spike etc. of a Rajput warrior, is also there. Among the arms, several once adorned the belts of Rajput princes and other potentates of India.

(vii) About five hundred objects from Mohenjodaro and other sites together with 23 casts of seals with photographs, are displayed in this section. The section was opened in 1938 to enable scholars to make a comparative study of proto-historic antiquities.

SALAR GHIAZI—A small domed building on the summit of the hill to the right of the road to Pushkar, as it ascends the Ana Sagar valley, has come to be known as the hermitage of Salar Ghazi. As a matter of fact, Salar Ghazi never came to Ajmer and nobody knows who lies buried in the tomb. Salar Ghazi, the son of Salar Sahu, died at Bharaich (Oudh). This place appears in time, to have come to be known as Chilla Salar Ghazi in the same way as the cell of Soonda faqir, has come to be called Piran Pir or Bada Pir. The place has been greatly improved during the last ten years (1950-60) by new additions.

TARAGARH FORT—Overhanging the city of Ajmer on the southwest, nestle majestically on a hill-top (about 700 feet high) the ruins of Taragarh Fort. The fort was known in the earlier days as Ajaya-Meru-Durg, from which the present name of Ajmer is derived. Till the 12th century A.D., we have clear epigraphic evidences in the Bijolia Rock Inscription of the time of Chahamana Emperor Somesvara (dated Samvat 1226=1170 A.D.) that the older name Ajaya-Meru was used to mean Ajmer of today.

As most forts, in the country, Taragarh was difficult of access. Speaking of this unique feature of the Taragarh Fort, one Col. Broughton remarks—"Its principal strength doubtless lies in the ruggedness and acclivity of the hill upon which it is situated."

Taragarh is a common place appellation as applied to the famous Ajaya-Meru Fort. When viewed from the valley down below, the fortress on the crest of the hillock looks at night from a distance, Star Adorned (Tara-sobhita-garh Fort which is star-adorned). The name may also be explained to imply a star amongst the forts specially referring to its superiority to other forts of the time. There are other forts in India known as Taragarh for the same reasons. The picturesque Taragarh for the same reasons. The picturesque Taragarh with its much impressive environs, occupies the crest of an extension of the famous Aravalli range.

Taragarh or the *star-citadel*, as some historians will significantly like to call it, is a very remarkable fortress nearly two miles in circuit on the top of the hill. It has some important old gates and some minor gates, the total number being as many as nine and they are at present, known by various names. When we go up in the ascending winding road, we first of all, reach the interesting *Lakshmipol* or gate of wealth. The second gate, the roof of which has fallen down is called *Phute Darwaja* (broken gate) by the common people. The third gate is called the *Gagudi-ki-Phatak*. After the fourth gate is crossed, we reach the gate of victory which is the fifth and most interesting gate and considered to be the principal entrance to Taragarh Fortress. The situation of the gate makes the fortress difficult of accession. Of the minor gates *Bhawani pol* and *Hathi pol* deserves special mention:

From the date its foundations were laid, Taragarh had to withstand many sieges during more than a thousand years. Regarding Taragarh defying utmost effort of his soldiers, an officer in Scindias army wrote in 1790 A.D.:—

“Although we have invested this fort for fifteen days very closely, yet we can make no impression upon it; our guns from the very great elevation they are placed at, and the distance make no visible impression, and the narrow paths which lead to the fort are so defended by nature, that a few large stones thrown down must carry everything before them; the noise they make in rolling I can compare to nothing but thunder. Indeed, I am afraid we must turn the blockade into a siege, as they have six month’s water and a year’s provision in the Fort.”

Taragarh Fort or *Ajay-Meru Durg* is also called *Garh Beetli* in rural songs. This fort was built on a hill popularly known as *beetli* and hence the name. In the 17th century A.D., a *Gor Rajput* named *Raja Bithaldas*, who was a General of *Shah Jahan* carried out extensive repairs to the fortress of Taragarh and local people associate his name with *Garh Beetli*.

Taragarh fortress has sustained many long sieges and has witnessed many battles leading to destruction of its walls and subsequent reconstruction, renewal etc. by the conquerors. As a result only portions of the original fortification built by the Hindus, may be seen consisting of squared and dressed blocks of sandstone used at the bottom of the surrounding walls. A pillard stone chamber is also there which from its massive construction and heavy capitals, may be assigned to the

early period. Commonly called Kutchery or Court, this flat-roofed chamber containing at present 30 ston pillars (each about 11 feet high) is an old structure of antiquarian interest.

Due to dismantling, building and rebuilding, we come across at Taragarh, relics of the Mediæval period only, the earlier structures being completely changed by superimposition of later buildings.

Owing to its natural strength and strategical position, Ajay-Meru Durg or the Taragarh Fortress has been compared to Gibraltar, according to some writers, a comparison though far-fetched, is not without significance.

TOWN HALL—The building is situated just near the Railway Station. It was built in the year 1899-1900 and named after Mr. Trevor who was the then Chief Commissioner of Ajmer-Merwara and Agent to the Governor General in Rajputana. The Hall is being utilized for public library and for public functions. This is the only upto-date and decent library for the public the expenses of which are borne by the Municipal Committee. The name of the Hall has now been changed to Gandhi Bhawan.

VILLA OF SYED AHMAD—At the foot of the Hill, to the north-east of Ana Sagar, stand the remains of the garden of Syed Ahmad, who was governor of Ajmer in 1699 A.D. The *baori* in it however, is called the *baori* of Asad Khan, who was Subedar of Ajmer in H. 1092 (1681 A.D.) and on whom the titles of *Umdatul Mulk* and *Madarulumuham* were conferred when he became minister at Delhi.

At a little distance to the south of these remains, on an elevation, stands a ruined mosque, built by one Sheikh Yahya during the reign of Aurangzeb, for the upkeep of which Asad Khan made a grant of forty bighas of land in the neighbourhood. During recent years, additions have been made to it.

VISAL SAR—The beautiful lake now called Bisla, was in ancient times, one of the most beautiful ornaments of Ajmer. Writing in 1840, Dr. R. H. Irvine says; "When full of water, the *Visala talao* is a beautiful object" (*Medical Topography of Ajmer* p. 49). It is an artificial lake, oblong in shape, built by Emperor Visaldeva, who reigned about 1152-1163 A.D.

The celebrated Prithviraj Raso says that the Emperor returning from a hunting party one day, and finding springs of water and hills

amidst beautiful surrounds, called his ministers and ordered a lake like Pushkar to be built here. (Prithviraj Rasò, Adiparva, *Chhand* 364). And Visalsar was constructed accordingly. It received the overflow from Ana Sagar as well as the water flowing down the western and northern slopes of Targarh and the adjacent hills this side of Lakshmi Pol, through Inderkot. It is about 2½ miles in circumference. The surrounding embankment was faced in stone, with steps leading to the bottom of the lake. Temples and houses stood all around and there were two islands in the lake on which stood palaces for the king.

Though the embankment remains in more or less a ruined state as also the massive stairs on the eastern side, a short distance from the water weir, nothing is left to the temples and buildings to mark the ancient grandeur of the place. (The vestiges of an island are yet seen in the lake and upon its margin; but the materials have been carried away by the Goths. "Tod's *Rajasthan*, Vol. I, p. 783). Images were extant on the embankment during the time of the Mahrattas (1790-1818 A.D.), which sent forth jets, when the water rose to their lips.

The islands are hopelessly ruined, though marks of a reservoir and foundations of buildings on them remind the spectator that in old days, the Visal Sar was a beautiful lake with island palaces fit to adorn the capital of an Emperor, distinguished as much for letters as for valour. This splendid place appears to have been destroyed partly because of the temples standing there, during the early Muhammadan invasions. Up to the time of Jahangir, the place had some pretension to beauty, as the Emperor in his memoirs (*Tuzk-e-Jahangiri*) says that while at Ajmer in 1615 A.D., he ordered repairs to be executed to the lake. (Jahangir is said to have built a palace on the banks of this lake).

The English church now stands on the south-west embankment of the lake, where once stood the temples of the sun-god. In the north-east corner of the lake, on the embankment, is an enclosure containing *chhatrees* and *chabutras* built over the remains of the ancestors of the Oswal Seths of Ajmer, and now called the Dadabari.

The Bisla Lake is unfortunately in utter ruins to admit of restoration; but it may be possible to protect this relic of ancient days, emblematic of the most glorious period of the history of Ajmer, from further assaults and preserve it in good condition.

ARAIN—Arain or Arami is about fourteen miles south-east of Kishangarh. It is the headquarter of the tahsil of the same name. According to the local traditions, it was a seat of the Parmaras, some old mud walls of whose time are still pointed out by the people. There can be no doubt that it was an old place. Along the banks of a talav at one end of the village may be traced pieces of old spires, images and sculptures, though no temple now exists. Several such broken fragments have been stored in a shed, many of which are now worshipped as Sitla Mata. Not far from here is a small shrine of Mahadev. Outside is lying a singular old sculptures, now worshipped as Sahasralinga. In the centre are Siva-Parvati standing with Nandin down below and surrounded with innumerable tiny lingas. In the local kacheri also have been deposited two sculptures, one of which is of Ganapati. Below it are two lines engraved giving the date Samvat 1204 Pausa sudi 6, and informing us that Shri Satata and Asadevi did obeisance to the god. Another figure is of a cow and her calf which was also consecrated on the same date. But here we are told that the image was set up in Arana which is the old name of Arain. Old Jain sculptures are also found. The finds indicated that they belonged to the Digambar sect. They are all of about 12th century. At the other end of the village is a temple of Kalyani which, according to an inscription thereon, was erected in Samvat 1630. It was built by Ravata Sri Udaisingh assisted by his three sons. A second inscription was also found here. It bears the date Samvat 1844 Sravana Sudi Sanvare, and speaks of a remission of cow-grazing dues by Jalam Singh, son of Bijai Singh.

BAGHERA—Baghera is situated at a distance of 67 miles south-east of the city of Ajmer in the Kekri Sub-division. In Rajasthan there are few places of archæological and antiquarian interest like Baghera abounding in rare relics of interest, lying scattered all over that old village, the previous name of which was Vyagreraka as recorded in the Bijolia Rock Inscription of the reign of Chauhan Emperor Somesvara, dated Smvat 1226 (vide *Epigraphia Indica* Vol. XXVI, page 84). This fascinating mediæval site attracted the attention of A.C.L. Carlleyle who attempted at closely examining some of its relics as early as the year 1871-72. Since then a good number of antiquities of fine workmanship have been collected from Baghera for display in the Rajputana Museum at Ajmer and even a casual visitor to the museum, is deeply impressed by some of these exquisite pieces.

According to Carlleyle the name Baghera is simply a corruption of Vaghera, which is the same as Sanskrit *Vyaghra*, which means a

tiger." As is well-known in many parts of Rajasthan, Baghera is the common name for a young tiger or a panther.

The most noteworthy thing at Baghera is the Varaha-Avatar (Boar incarnation of Vishnu) at present enshrined in a comparatively modern building standing on the southern side of a big sacred tank known by the name of Varaha Sagar. Local traditions are unanimous as to the existence of a very old and famous temple on the Varaha Sagar at Baghera which was destroyed by the Muhammadans. It is also said that the only thing that escaped destruction was the figure of the Varaha Avatar, which was removed from the temple and kept hidden in the deep water of the tank just before the approach of the raiders. This statue was subsequently recovered from the tank and installed in the present temple, the old temple of Varahaji in the neighbourhood being given up for good as being rendered unholy by the idol-breakers.

A few places not referred to by Mr. Carlleyle which were also visited seem very likely to be promising sites for antiquarian researches. They are:—(i) a dilapidated temple assignable to 10-11th century A.D. situated on the western side of the Varaha Sagar; (ii) a magnificent Torana close to the outer wall of the Garh of the Thakur Sahib of Baghera; (iii) low-lying mounds with traces of ancient buildings buried underneath in the Naginabag area; and (iv) a rocky place named Mataji Dungar outside Baghera with portions of Jain images jutting out, which may really mark the site of a famous Jain temple referred to in inscriptions of the Mediaeval period.

Amongst the remains at Baghera itself and also among objects from Baghera displayed in the Rajputana Museum, Ajmer, there are Brahmanical divinities, Jain images, incarnations of Vishnu, doorjambs, Torans and other ornamental architectural pieces. Mostly carved out of a fine-grained variety of black-stone (may be a soft variety of chlorite) which stone makes possible high polish, minute carving of details, cleanest cuttings and most handsome features, many of these sculptures from Baghera are assignable to 11th and 12th centuries A.D. In fact, this is a glorious period in the cultural history of Rajasthan coinciding with the reigns of the powerful and famous Chauhan Emperors like Prithviraja I, Arnoraja (nicknamed Anaji), Vighraharaja IV (nicknamed Visaldeo), Somesvara and Prithviraja III, and the conclusion is irresistible that as these regions were included in the Chauhan dominion, Rajasthani sculptors were greatly encouraged to devote their best attention producing many unique specimens of great artistic skill and

exquisite perfection, which is only possible under liberal royal patronage. Under fostering royal care, there are unmistakable indications that an all round development and progress in sculptural art was ushered in, the trend and tradition of which lingered on even after 1200 A.D. when the Chauhan Empire was no more in Rajasthan. The great impetus which the sculptural art of Rajasthan received from the liberal patronage of the Chauhan Princes, did not go in vain with extinction of the Chauhan rule but created a regular habit of fine workmanship and neatness in delineation, and professional sculptors which vied with one another to chisel out excellent pieces for some time more.

BEAWAR—Beawar is the chief town of the area previously known as Merwara. It was founded by Col. Dixon, the then Extra Assistant Commissioner of the area, in 1838. The town was designed on the model of Naya Bazar, Ajmer with streets crossing at right angles. The houses are built in 'hygienic dwelling system'. It is situated on high ground and the rain water runs off at once.

Previous to its establishment, the place was a small village in the vicinity of a Cantonment. Some businessmen used to live there who effected supplies to the corps stationed at the Cantonment. This population was floating as none of these businessmen had families living with them. A few businessmen had taken up their residence at Beawar but their number was small and their dealings with the agriculturists and other inhabitants, were very restricted. It appears that these *mahajans* were afraid of the Mairs; and did not trust their honour and honesty. Due to the irregular habits of the people, the precariousness of the seasons, and the meagre produce raised, they were loth to set up themselves fully in the locality.

The dealings of the agriculturists were carried on with the *mahajans* of the towns of the neighbouring states which skirted on the border. The cultivators obtained seed and credit from these *mahajans* and the produce was also sold to them. The cultivators were completely at the mercy of their *bohras*. The price of grain was enhanced at the sowing time while on the harvest being cut, it was purposely dropped. Again, ghee, the produce of their herds, the only item given to the *bohras* besides grain, was taken at the latter's own price. Thus the cultivators were subject to extortion and reaped only a portion of their legitimate gains. The fact was that there was no open market where produce could fetch an equitable return. These *bohras* held complete monopoly.

It was realised that a small town was necessary to improve the lot of the agriculturist in the area. It was therefore, decided to make an effort to set up a town there. So in February, 1836 a notification in the Urdu and Hindi was published announcing government's intention of building up a small town on a waste spot of land adjacent to the cantonment of Beawar.

The site of the town is admirably between the former states of Marwar, Mewar and Ajmer now merged in Rajasthan. The town of Beawar is surrounded by *Shaharpanah* which essentially consists of rampart with parapet defended by thirty-two massive bastions and has four gateways. The total length of the wall is 10,569 feet. Besides the walled area of about 6.43 Km., the area outside the city walls comprising 3.73 Km., also forms part of the Beawar Municipality. The town stands on a total area of 10.2 Km.

Enterprising persons from far off places came to settle down at Beawar e.g. Brahmins from Bharatpur, mahajans from Pali, Marwar and Bishnois from Pokaran, so that the population is a sort of cosmopolitan in character. According to the 1961 Census, the town has a population of 53,931 souls.

Water to the city is supplied from Jalia and Makrera works. The water is duly chlorinated and supplied through public taps and private connections.

Beawar, being the second most important wool exporting centre of India, has considerable international importance. The important industry that has flourished in this town during the past fifty years, is that of cotton textiles. The chief articles of import are gur, cotton, wool and drugs while the chief articles of export are wool, local mill-made cloth and drugs.

Til patti is a speciality of Beawar. It is prepared with Til and is very thin. Each grain is connected with another with sugar solution. It goes to various places in India and is also exported outside India.

Besides the three big cotton mills i.e. Krishna Mills, the Edward Mills and Maha Laxmi Mills, there are a number of small factories in Beawar. It has a post-graduate college, five Higher Secondary Schools, five Middle Schools, a training school for teachers and a number of primary schools. There is also a hospital, a mobile dispensary and a Maternity Home. Besides, there are three dispensaries maintain-

ed by the textile mills and a number of private Ayurvedic Aushdhalayas. It is headquarter of the sub-divisional office as also of Circle Inspector of Police and has a police station and seven outposts.

Other places of interets and picnic spots and about Beawar, are: Mataji-ki-Dungari, Chang-ki-Dhani, Balad's Jain temple and Sheopuraghata. Makreda and Jalia water works are also picnic spots. The Todgarh is an old fort about 45 miles away. In its vicinity is the picturesque place known as Dhundaleshwar.

GOVINDGARH—Govind Singh, grand son of Maharaj Udai Singh of Marwar (Mote Raja), founded the village of Govingarh protected by a fort, during the reign of Akbar. At some distance in the west of the village, Saraswati and Sagarmati rivers meet. The inhabitants of the village are mostly *Thatheras*. They prepare utensils of brass and bronze. Black soot of quality is also produced locally. The village has a population of 4,585 according to the Census of 1961. It has a middle school and a post office.

KISHANGARH—Kishangarh lies at a distance of 18 miles from Ajmer on the road to Jaipur. Kishangarh was an independent State before 1947. After independence, it was made a part of Jaipur district. In 1956, when Ajmer was integrated with Rajasthan, Kishangarh was transferred to Ajmer. It is now a sub-division of the district having four tahsils. Kishangarh is well known for its metal works. There is also the State Police Training School. Kishangarh has many ancient sites, and in the field of art, it occupies a special position. Kishangarh School of Painting is well reputed. According to the Census of 1961, Kishangarh had a population of 25,263. The town has a Degree College, a Higher Secondary School, two Middle Schools and two Hospitals.

No objects of any great antiquity have so far been discovered at Kishangarh. But a curious though modern shrine of Navgraha may be mentioned here. It is on the south-east of the town near the Sukhsagar. It was built, nearly eighty years ago by an Oswal called Ramnath Singh Mehta. In the shrine is an eight-sided *chabutra* or pedestal, surmounted by *Supya*, the other eight Navagraha occupying the eight sides. The images of *Shani*, *Rahu* and *Ketu* are of black stone and the rest of marble. *Mangal* is coloured red. Not far from this is the Gundolav on the banks of which are five *Chhatris*. One is of Kishan Singh, founder of Kishangarh. Another is of his fourth son Hari Singh. A third is of Mokham Singh, who built a garden called Mokhambilas on

the opposite side of the talav. The fourth is of Prithvi Singh. The fifth is of a *khavasina* or kept woman of Bakhtavar Singh, illegitimate son of Pratap Singh. A little to the west from the *chhatris* is *Balaji-kachabutra*. Here is an image of *Balaji*, with the marble footprints of a *sadhu*, who from the inscription engraved on it, appears to be *Jaita Amarjika*, pupil of Swami Ramdasaji of the Devamurara *sakha*. The footprints were set up by his pupil Pranadasa on Saturday, the 5th of the bright half of Ashadha in the (Vikrama) near 1867.

MASUDA—This is very ancient village, founded by Salazar Ghazi, Commander-in-chief of Shahabuddin Ghori, after the name of his daughter Masud Ghazi. Previously Masuda was under government Khalsa and a government thana functioned here. In 1856, Thakur Jagmal Singh together with his grand son, went to the darbar of Akbar for service. In their absence, Panwars invaded and took over Masuda. Akbar sent Thakur Jagmal Singh under a strong army which after a fight at Harmara defeated the Panwars. The *thikana* was given over to Hanumat Singh, son of Jagmal Singh. The revenue derived from this *thikana* amounted to one lakh rupees. The erstwhile jagirdar of Masuda was bestowed with the title of Tazimi Insitmrardar and Honorary Magistrate.

According to the Census of 1951, the village has a population of 2,873. The village has a Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, a primary school, a primary health centre, a mobile dispensary, a post office and a Police Station under the Beawar Circle. The village is also the headquarter of the Panchayat Samiti.

NASIRABAD—Nasirabad is a cantonment, situated 14 miles to the south-east of Ajmer city. The station itself is on a bleak flat sandy plane of the Aravalli hills lying nearest to Ajmer and is dotted with cultivation, dwarfed trees and tanks. The cantonment pillars enclose an area of 13.68 km.

At the termination of the Pindari War (1717-1718), in order to maintain the supremacy of the British Government, 3 Corps complete with Artillery, were distributed; one in Rajputana, another at Neemuch and a third at Mhow. The original position proposed for the Rajputana force was Tonk-Rampura but when Ajmer was ceded to the British by the Scindia, its superiority as a position was immediately acknowledged. Sir David Ochterloney's division marched to village Nandla, three miles from the present Military Station. A cantonment was estab-

lished on 20th November, 1818 and was named Nasirabad after the title of Nasiruddaula bestowed upon Sir David Ochterlony by emperor Shah Alam.

The cantonment is connected by rail with all the principal cities of Rajasthan. Nasirabad has metal roads and is the rail head for Kekri, Deoli and other adjoining places. There is one P.W.D. Inspection Bungalow and another Dak Bungalow in Nasirabad. There are also five dharamshalas. There is a Post and Telegraph Office which also has a Telephone Public Call Office. There are two Middle Schools, a Higher Secondary School, a High School, three Primary Schools and two private hospitals. Nasirabad is a Police circle with a police station and three outposts. According to the Census of 1961, the town had a population of 24,122.

NOSAL—Nine miles north of Rupnagar is Nosal. On the outskirts of the village is the temple of Anandi Mata. She is the tutelary goddess of Lavadiyas, a sect of the Khandelwal Saravigis, and of the Chitalangiyas, a sect of the Maheshwaris. A lavadiya, it is said, had gone to a place in Marwar for marriage. While returning with his bride Anandi, a wheel of his cart (rath) gave way. Thereupon he exclaimed somewhat jocosely: "My father-in-law gave me everything as *dahej* (dowry), but did not give me a *khati* (carpenter)." This touched the bride to the quick, who jumped down and cried to the mother Earth to press her to her heart. The prayer was listened to and she was swallowed by the Earth. She was thereupon, transformed into a goddess. A Banjara is said to have built a temple over the place. There is an old sculpture built into the inside wall of the back of the shrine over the pedestal of the image, and it is this sculpture which is said by the people to be the rock from which the goddess appeared.

The temple faces east. The shrine door is old but coated with whitewash. In the centre on the lintel is some goddess, flanked by musicians and attendants. In the principal niches on the exterior are Ganpati on south, Surya on the west (back) and Mahishasuramardini on the north. The outside walls and the lowermost portion of the spire, are old and form the only surviving portions of the old temple. When the jungle was cleared, the basements of two shrines were discovered, which together with two similar ones in the front and the central shrine, originally formed a *panchayatama*. Two curious sculptures also were found, which were parts of the back shrines. Each one of them

a population of 5,582. The village has a Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, a Primary School, a Primary Health Centre, a Police Station under the Beawar Circle and a Post Office.

✓ **PUSHKAR**—Pushkar, seven miles north of Ajmer, is a celebrated place of pilgrimage and the great sanctity of its lake, equalled, according to Colonel Tod, only by that of Mansarowar. This is due to the belief that here Brahma performed the *yajna* and that the Sarasvati here reappears in five streams. The legends connected with these two beliefs may be found in the *Pushkar Mahatmya* of the *Padma Purana*. Brahma was perplexed as to where he should perform the sacrifice according to the Vedas, as he held no temple on earth like others deities. As he reflected, the loss fell from his hand and he determined that where it fell, there would he perform his sacrifice. The lotus rebounding struck the earth in three places; water issued from all three and Brahma descending called the name of place *Pushkar* after the lotus. Brahma then collected all the gods and on the 11th day of the bright half of Kartik, all was ready. Each god and *rishi*, had his own special duty assigned to him and Brahma stood ready with a jar of *Amrit* on his head. The sacrifice, however, could not begin until Savitri appeared, and she refused to come without Lakshmi, Parvati, and Indrani, whom Pavan had been sent to summon. On hearing of her refusal Brahma became enraged and said to Indra, *Search me out a girl that I may marry her and commence the sacrifice, for the jar of amrit weighs heavy on my head*. Indra set out in search went, but found none except a Gujar's daughter whom he purified by passing her through the body of a cow, and then bringing her to Brahma, told him what he had done. Vishnu observed: *Brahmans and cows are in reality identical; you have taken her from the womb of a cow, and this may be considered a second birth*. Shiva added that as she had passed through a cow, she might be called *Gayatri*. The Brahmans agreed that the sacrifice might now proceed and Brahma having married Gayatri and having enjoined silence upon her, placed on her head the jar of *amrit*, and the *yajna* commenced.

The sacrifice, however, was soon interrupted by a naked man, who appeared crying, *Atmat, Atmat* and who, at the instigation of Shiva threw a skull into the sacrificial ground. When attempt was made to remove the skull, two appeared in its place, and the whole ground gradually became covered with skulls till Shiva, at Brahma's request, finally agreed to remove them on condition that he should have a temple at Pushkar, to be worshipped under the name *Atmateswar*. Meanwhile, a number of Brahmans, all ugly men arrived from the

south. As they bathed in the lake they became handsome. The ghat at which they bathed, called Sarup Ghat, is the resort of pilgrims on the 11th day of Kartik. On the morning of the 12th day Brahmans came to Brahma and asked him where they were to bathe. In reply, he directed them to bathe in the Prechi Sarasvati, the stream which passed by the village of Pokran and it is explained how the Sarasvati after disappearing underground to escape the heat of the fire which she is carrying to the sea, reappears, in five channels in the sacred soil of Pushkar; how two of these meet at Nand, 5 miles from Pushkar: and how from the junction, the river, thereafter called the Luni, proceeds to the sea. The sacrifice was disturbed this day by Bhattu Brahman who let lose a snake among the Brahmans. The reptile coiled itself round Bhṛigu Rishi whose son imprecated a curse against Bhattu that he might become a snake. Bhattu, going to his grandfather Brahma, was consoled by the promise that he should be the founder of the 9th order of snakes and was directed to go to the Nagpahar, where he should receive worship on the 5th day of the dark half of Sawan, at the place called the Nagkund.

The sacrifice proceeded till the 15th, each day having its appointed duties; for this day the Brahmans were directed to make a circuit of the lakes and to bathe in Gayakup, the tank now known by the name of Suda Bai. Shortly after their return Savitri appeared, greatly incensed at the disregard which had been shown to her. Brahma sought to pacify her, but to no purpose, and she went in rage to the hill north of the lake, where her temple stands now.

After the Yajna was performed by Brahma, Pushkar became so holy that the greatest sinners by merely bathing in it went to heaven. Heaven became inconveniently crowded, and the gods complained that no man any longer cared for them or for his duty, so easy was it to get the heaven. Brahma agreed and ordained that the *tiratha* be on earth only from the 11th day of kartik to the full moon, and for the remainder of the year, he proposed to remove the *tirath* to the air. Such is the legend given in the *Pushkar Mahatmya*.

With the rise of Buddhism, Pushkar like other sacred place such as Varanasi, Mathura and Gaya, took up the cause of reformation and soon became a stronghold of Buddhism. With the decline of Buddhism, Pushkar also declined and for a time was cast into the shade. After sometime, a Jain Raja, Padam Sen founded a city of one lakh houses called Padmavati Nagri. It extended to where now stands the village of Surajkund, Galti, Banshi and Kishenpura. It is said that

whenever some poor person came to settle in the city, each family gave a rupee, and with the lakh of rupees as capital, the newcomer commenced business. The system was known as *kokan tirath*. Once a yogi came to the place and lived for twelve years in devotion. One day he saw his disciple with a wound on his head. The disciple on being asked stated that the city was populated only by Jains who did not give alms to anybody except Jains, and he, therefore, had to eke out his living by selling head loads of bush-thorns. The yogi's indignation brought a tornado of wind and dust descended on the city and destroyed it.

It was restored in the beginning of the ninth century A.D. by the famous Parihar king, Narhar Rao of Mandor (Marwar). It is said that one day while out hunting, he felt thirsty, and finding some water in a pool, he took up a little in his hands to drink, when he found that the white spot on his hands disappeared with the touch of the water. The Raja was surprised at the healing quality of the water and so began to investigate the history of the place. Finding that once it was a sacred lake, he restored the lake by constructing an embankment on the side the water flowed. He also built *dharmshalas* for the people to stay.

Later, the place came into the possession of the Gujars. In 1157 A.D., however, a body of *Sanyasis* fell upon them on the night of the Dewali, and killing them all, restored the place to the Brahmans and left their representatives in five of the principal temples. Their descendants still preside in those temples.

There are five principal temples at Pushkar, those dedicated to Brahma, Savitri, Badri Narayana, Varaha, and Shiva Atmateswar. They are all of comparatively modern constructions, for the old temples suffered much at the hands of the Mughals particularly Aurangzeb. A *masjid* which is still kept up was built by Aurangzeb on the side of a temple to Keshav Rai. The temple of Brahma was built by Gokulparak, an oswal Mahajan of Gwalior, and is said to be the only temple dedicated to Brahma in India.¹ The attendants of the temple are Puri Gosains. The temple of Savitri is built on the north of the lake, and was constructed by the Purohit of Ajit Singh of Marwar. The temple Badri Narayana was rebuilt by the Thakur or Kharwa some 100 years ago. That of Varaha or the boar, was demolished by Jahangir, and the present temple was built by Bakhat Singh of Jodhpur. Goma Rao, a Maratha governor, rebuilt the temple of Shiva Atmateswar. Among

the modern temples, the temple of Rama-Vaikunthanath of Shri Ramanuja Sampradaya, at the entrance of the town of Pushkar, is the most imposing. The temple was built in 1925 A.D. by Seth Magniram Bangar of Marwar at a cost of eight lakh of rupees. The *Vimana* and the *Gopuram* over the temple were built in accordance with the rules of the Hindu architecture.

The town is picturesquely situated on the lake, with hills on three sides; on the fourth side the sands, drifted from the plains of Marwar, have formed a complete bar to the waters of the lake, which has no outlet, though filtration through the sand hills is considerable. Bathing Ghats have been constructed nearly all round the lake, and most of the princely and wealthy families of Rajasthan, have houses round the margin.

Pushkar is almost on sides, encircled by hills of which the Nag Pahar on the east, deserves special mention, being full of interesting old caves. Some of them are said to be associated with the great sages—Agastya, Kanva and Bhartrihari. In the words of Col. Tod “here are many beautiful spots about the serpent mount, which as it abounds in springs, has from earliest times been the resort of the Hindu sages whose caves and hermitages are yet pointed out, now embellished with gardens and fountains. One of the latter issuing from a fissure in the rock is sacred to the Muni Agastya.”

It will be interesting if some of these caves, so skilfully hewn out of standing rocks are found to be as old as the pre-historic age of India as some scholars rightly suggest. In the famous serpent mount have also been found out microliths assignable to the remotest past.

At the western slope of the Serpent hill, a sacred spot is called *Pancha-Kund* and another is known by the name of *Gou-mukh* where water from hill falls down in the rainy season. The analogy is no doubt, to the fall of the holy river Ganga through the *Gaumukh* in the Himalayas. Not very far from it is a cave and a beautiful place, locally known by the name of hermitage of Kanva. Some people go to the extent of associating that beauty with Kanva's hermitage where Kalidas's *Sakuntala* spent her childhood under care of Kanvamuni.

Curiously enough, there are local traditions that Ramchandra and Sita of Ramayana and the five Pandava brothers also paid visit to *Pushkar-tirth*. But though there is mention of Pushkar in both the

Amayana and Mahabharata, it is difficult to fully corroborate the tradition referred to above.

A place at the foot of the Nagpahar is pointed out to be one of the 51 *pithas* of India marking the spot of a temple of Gayatri goddess together with Bhairava Sarvananda. Not very far from it stands a hillock surmounted with a temple of goddess Savitri, the divine spouse of Brahma. To every Indian lady coming to Pushkar a visit to this Savitri temple is specially enjoined as bringing life-long peace and happiness.

At Pushkar a famous fair takes place every year on the occasion of the *Kartiki-Snan* described above. As the bathers are to remain there at least for full five days from the 11th day of the bright half of the month of Kartik to the full-moon day, such assemblage offers like all other similar fairs in India, an opportunity for considerable trade. It is interesting to note here that even in the records of Emperor Jahangir's time, we come across references to a cattle fair at Pushkar being one of the biggest cattle fair in the north-western India. Till today this huge cattle fair is being continued under the patronage of the Government, and bullocks, horses, camels etc. are brought here and sold in large numbers. The owners of the best animals are awarded prizes.

The town of Pushkar is divided into two parts. That in which the temples of Varahji and Sri Rangji are situated, is called the *Chhoti Basti*; and the other, the *Badi Basti*. The *Chhoti Basti* was originally called *Varahpura*. The Brahmins of the two *bastis* have always been on unfriendly terms with each other; the reason being that the Brahmins of the *Badi Basti* are not true Brahmins but are *Shakadwipi* Brahmins. The Brahmins of *Badi Basti* claim that they are the original Brahmins of Pushkar and have descended from *Prasar Muni* who was the father of *Veda Vyas*. The last descendant was *Bhopat*. *Bhopat's* descendants became divided into seven *thoks* or groups. Their seven *thoks* are (1) *Allavat* from their progenitor, *Alla* (2) *Devavat* from the progenitor, *Deva* (3) *Dharmavat* from their progenitor, *Dharma* (4) *Adhari* from their progenitor, *Lachman* (5) *Krishna Kalyan* after their progenitor, *Krishna* and *Kalyan* (6) *Chokhavat* after their progenitor, *Chokha* and (7) *Chandavat*. They claim that when *Raja Narhar Rao* renovated this sacred place, he made them his *Pushkar Gurus*.

Whatever the origin of *Badi Basti* Brahmins, they have for several centuries, been held to be Brahmins and must be accepted as Brahmins. History records innumerable instances of people in India who

became Brahmins from Kshatriyas and Vaishyas; some even from the aboriginal tribes. Valmiki is conspicuous instance.

Now the town of Pushkar is well developed with a population of 6,703. The town has a municipality which looks to the sanitation and levies a road cess on all pilgrims and visitors to Pushkar. The town has a Multipurpose Higher Secondary School, two Primary Schools, a government allopathic hospital with facility for 20 indoor patients. Pushkar Police Station is under Ajmer circle.

RAJGARH—Raja Bithhar Das, the founder of this village, was the descendant of Raja Bachhraj. He came from Bengal and served for sometime, under Raja Prithvi Raj Chauhan. Impressed by his bravery, Prithvi Raj gave him his daughter and the jagir of Kuchaman, Sarwar, Junia and Kekri. According to the Census of 1951, the village had a population of 2,494. The village has a middle school, an ayurvedic dispensary and a post office.

RAMSAR—The village is known after the name of its founder Rama Devi wife of Karam Chand Panwar. The village was founded in 1515 A.D. The village has a baori constructed by its founder. According to the Census of 1951 the village had a population of 3,274. The village has a higher secondary school, an outpost under the Nasirabad Police Station of Kekri circle, a village panchayat, a post office and an allopathic hospital with facility for eight indoor patients.

RUPNAGAR—It is six miles north-east of Salemabad. The territory round about Rupnagar was originally held by the Chauhans. Kotadi, which is eight miles north of Rupnagar sometime held by the Karamsots, was according to local traditions, originally the place where the horses of Prithviraj were kept and which contained his granary as the word kotadi shows. In the course of time a village sprang up here with this name. One of the queens of Prithviraj again, it is said, was staying near the tank of Kathoda, and a hill close by Rupnagar, is still known as Rani-dungari. It is said that formerly there were 140 temples around Kathoda, not a trace of which now remains. When the Chauhan sovereign was engaged in battle with the Muhammadans, Miran Sahib was fighting at Ajmer, but his maternal uncle Pir Sultan Sahib fell in a battle near Rupnagar. His head fell here, but the trunk went on fighting to Ajmer till it approached Miran Sahib. The *dargah* of Miran Sahib is on Taragarh near Ajmer but that of Pir Sultan Sahib is in the fort of Rupnagar. About a mile and a half to the north of the town, are five memorial stones in what is locally known as *Balechomi-ka-*

tiba, i.e., the mound of the Balechas, a clan of the Chauhans. They all bear inscriptions, the earliest on which is dated *Samvat 1092 Vaisakha Sudi* and the latest *Samvat 1109 Sravana vadi 16*, and speaks of a *Chamupala* or protector of forces, whose name is lost. He is therein called a *Va (Ba) lecha*, which confirms the tradition that *Rupnagar* and the territory round about, were once held by the Balechas.

Rupnagar was inhabited principally by the Gujars and consisted originally of two *bas* or localities which are now called *Ajmeriyon-ka-muhalla* and *Dhabhajiyan-ka-muhalla*. In V.S. 1515 it was held by the *Jogi-Cachhvalas* of *Mordi* amongst whom was one *Bhilaji*, about whom a funny story is told. According to it, *Bhilaji* compelled the *Maharana* of *Udaipur* to marry his daughter to him. It was captured from them in V.S. 1600 by *Sisodiya Rupasimha*, in the possession of whose family it remained till V.S. 1705 when it was wrested from them by *Rupasimha*, the fourth king of the *Kishangarh* family and named *Rupnagar* after him. *Rupasimha* had returned from *Mandalgarh* in *Mewar*, and had come to this place for hunting. And on a precipice he witnessed a she-goat bravely defending her kids against five or six tigers that had surrounded her. The sight filled his mind with wonder and he determined to erect a fort, which was promptly done. *Rupnagar* was known as *Vavera* till V.S. 1700 at least as is evident from an inscription in a step-well of *Banevadi*, about a mile and a half south of *Rupnagar*. The inscription is dated *Srinripati Vikramaditya rajyat samvat 1700 varshe Salivahanasaka Sake 1563 pravarttamane mahamangalya Pousha mase sukla-pakshe parayanika 2 dutiya Ravi-vasare Uttarbhadrapada nakshartre siddhijoge*, when the Emperor *Shah Jahan* ruled and *Vavera* was held by *Maharaja Rupasimha*, son of *Bharamalaji* of the *Rathor* dynasty. On this date, a step-well in the village of *Venevadi (Bhanevadi)* was caused to be built and consecrated by one *Mukutamani*, son of *Mathuradas*, of the *Mathuravarani* family, the *Kayastha* caste, and of the *Khoja Khamp* and a resident of *Agara (Aga.)* Rs. 251/- were expended on the well.

Outside the town of *Rupnagar* near the *chhatris* of *Bharmal* and *Rupsingh*, there is another *chhatri* known as the *chhatri* of *Khoja Mukutamani* who, therefore, appears to be a person of some importance. This *chhatri* has no inscription in it but the other two have inscriptions. From one it appears that *Bharmal* died at *Jafrabad* on Monday the 12th of the bright half of *Magha* in V.S. 1685 corresponding to *Saka 1550*, and his queens died *sati* on Monday the 2nd of the bright half of *Phalgun* of the same year. The queens were *Bhavalladeji*,

a Dadi, daughter of Balakrishnanaji, son of Hirdainarayana, (2) Suha-gadeji, a Sosodani, daughter of Sri-Karanaji, son of Goimdasji, and (3) Suryadeji, a Narukiji, daughter of Kesaudasa, son of Kanhaji. The chhatra was completed and consecrated on Sunday, the 5th of the bright half of Phalgun of the (Vikrama) year 1689. The inscription in the other chhatra specifies the date Samvat 1715 varshe Sake 1680 *pravartamane mahamangalya-parada-jyestha-mase Sukla-pakshe nayamya* in tithau Ravivarah, and indicates us that on this date Rup Singh, son of Bharnal and grandson of Kishan Singh, fell in a battle at Dholpur. His queens, who were three in number, became satis on Wednesday the 4th of the dark half of Ashadha of the same year. Their names are: (1) Ratandade, a Sisodani, daughter of Man Singh. (2) Rangarude, a Hadī, daughter of Indrasal, (3) Atrupade, a Godī, daughter of Girdhardas. The chhatra was raised and consecrated on Monday, the 12th of the dark half of Ashadha in the (Vikrama) year 1720. The *chhatris* just described, are on the outskirts of the town.

There is hardly anything of importance or interest in the town itself, except perhaps two things. One of these is the sculptures of Nandisvaradvipa in a Sarangi temple. They are in the form of a small miniature spide with four sides, each containing thirteen Tirthankaras. The other subject of interest is a modern image of Surya seated on a chariot or rather on a cart of the type that obtains here, with Aruna at the other narrow end driving one horse, but with seven faces. Surya here has four hands, the upper two of which hold the lotus stalks with flowers and the lower, a pitcher and a rosary.

A mile and a half to the south of the town, are three memorial pillars which are of the interest. All are inscribed and the middle one of them is mounted with a sculptured image of a Tirthankara. The inscription immediately below it, gives the date as Samvat 1018 *Jyeshtha Sudi 12* and informs that this is the *nishedhika* of Meghasenacharya set up after his death by his pupil Vimalsena-pandita. Down below the same inscription is repeated after which is a carved figure of a serpent. A *nishedhika* signifies a tomb or a memorial. This pillar, therefore, shows that Meghasenacharya was buried here. The inscription on the second pillar is illegible or rather highly weather-worn. Excepting the words Sri Meghasena and the ciphers 1017, nothing could be made out. From the inscription on the third pillar we learn that Padmasenacharya died in Samvat 1076 *Pausa Sudi 12* and that the pillar was erected by one Chitranadin. About three miles further south from this place, are two *tirthambhs* near the village of Thal. They are ordinary plain shafts surmounted by a capital with four sides facing

the cardinal directions. On the east is a person with a beard worshipping a *linga*; on the south is *Surya*; on the west is *Vishnu*; and on the north is a man riding a horse and piercing with his spear a boar which bites the horse's hoof. The inscription incised on it states that one *Viluja Shaddika* died in *Samvat* 1088 *Magha sudi* 10 and that the memorial stone was caused to be made by *Chachideva*. The capital of the other *tirthamb* is damaged. On the east face of it is apparently *Surya*, on the south *Ganapati*, on the west *Siva-Parvati* and on the east *Bhairav*. The inscription on the shaft is illegible except the date *Samvat* 1234 *Phalgun vadi* 1 *Sanau*.

SALEMABAD—Twelve miles north-west of Kishangarh is Salemabad, which is the seat of the pontiff of the *Mimbarka* sect of the *Vaishnavas*. The high priest enjoys high honours not only amongst the chiefs of Rajasthan but generally all over India. Salemabad was founded, it is said, about V.S. 1615, when *Bhati Gopaldasji* was living. He was in charge of Akbar's *rasoda*, and was a *bhumia* of this place. His descendants now stay at *Khejadla* in *Jodhpur*. *Parasurama*, one of the pontiffs of the *Nimbarka* sect, came from *Saharanpur* and was living in *Pushkar*. He is the author of many Sanskrit works and one Hindi work of his is *Parasurama-sagara*, which is composed in the *Sakhi* metre. While going to *Pushkar*, he happened to come to this place with his paraphernalia and his train of followers. Beneath a *jal* tree he prepared a fire and settled himself there for some time. *Bhati Gopaldas* came to pay his homage, and requested the ascetic to show him the path to *summum-bonum*.

He was told to serve the cows, Brahmans and saints. *Parasurama* kept his disciple *Haridas* in charge of his establishment and opened an alms-house for distributing *khichdi* gratis, which continues to the present day; the *jal* tree is gone, and in its place now stands building raised by *Adhikari Kishandasji* about hundred years ago. The fire place is still shown. It was dug into some time back, and some fragments of *pata* and *kamandalu* were found, which are believed to belong to *Parasurama*. A painting of his still exists in the temple, and a photo of it is kept in a niche behind the fire place.

When Emperor Akbar was going on pilgrimage to the *Dargah* of *Khawaja Muin-ud-din Chishti* of *Ajmer*, he stopped near Salemabad. The muhammadans praised to him the virtues of one *Mustina Shah* was staying in the jungle of *Pinglod*. The Hindus praised *Parasurama*. Akbar came to see the Hindu saint and offered his valuable clothes, which *Parasurama* threw into fire, implying that they were

not needed for him an ascetic. But the emperor became enraged and demanded them back. Parasurama seized his pair of tongs and took out the clothes, which to the surprise of everybody, were whole and entire. Akbar fell at his feet and begged his pardon which was readily given. Akbar asked for a son and his boon was granted. And it was after his son Salem that the place, it is said, was named Salemabad.

The temple of the Nimbarka sect at Salemabad, is dedicated to Radha Madhavji. The image, it is said, had originally been worn on the head by Jayadeva, the author of the Gita-Govinda. It was lying in a cavern near the Govinda-Kunda in Govardhana near Mathura and was being worshipped by a Bengali woman. While Govindasarana, a pontiff of the Nimbarka sect, was making a circumambulation round this mountain, he happened to stop near the kunda and offer obedience to the god. A wish sprung up in his mind that he should have this image on his head. At night he saw the god in a dream, who said that his wish also was to be on Govindasarana's head and ordered the latter to take him. His men brought a palanquin, placed the god in it and took him to Bharatpur. When it became known to the Bengalis, about five thousand of them went to the prince of Bharatpur with their grievance. The prince suggested that both the parties should place slips of paper with their request at the feet of the god, who will go with only that whose slip will be approved of. This was done and the Thakurji decided in favour of Govindasarana. Joharnal, the prince of Bharatpur, who was a pupil of Govindasarana, made several presents to the latter and caused the god to be taken to Salemabad with great pomp.

Another divinity of equal or perhaps greater importance is Sarvesvaraji. It is a Salagrama, and is believed to have been worn on the head by the sage Sanka. When Brahmadeva told him to offer worship, he asked as to whose worship he would perform. He was informed that there was a kunda called *Damodara-kunda* on the river Gandak where he would find on a tulsi leaf some object pervaded by Vishnu. Sanka went there and found this Salagrama, which was named Sarvesvara. He placed it on his head and it is consequently, a custom for every pontiff at the time of being enthroned to place Sarvesvaraji on his head. This is considered such an important feature of the ceremony that wherever the pontiff goes, he may forget other things, but will never forget to take Sarvesvaraji with him.

On the outskirts of the village is a step-well of the 17th century. In a niche of its wall is a short inscription saying in a *doha* (couplet)

that it was dug out by one *Brahmachari*. It ends with the date V.S. 1745 and the name of the writer, Maradorama.

SRINAGAR—The village was founded by Sardul Singh Panwar who came from Malpura in 1560. He also built a fort. Panwars ruled for 140 years ceding the area to Gauris of Rajgarh. However, it did not remain with them for long and the Maharaja of Kishangarh took over the control of the area after 25 years. The ruins of Panwar can still be traced spread over the valley. The village has a *shaharpunah*. Col. Dixon constructed a big reservoir in the village for irrigation purposes. According to the Census of 1951, the village had a population of 3,634. The village has a Police Station under the Kekri circle, a primary health centre, a higher secondary school and a Post office. The village is the headquarter of the Panchayat Samiti.

SARWAR—Not very far from Kekri, near the Ajmer-Kekri metalled road, a notable place of the name of Sarwar (previously a tahsil of now defunct Kishangarh-Raj of Rajasthan) attracted attention of late R.D. Banerjee of the Central Archaeological Department, on account of the huge temple of Sri Gopinathji of the late mediæval period which though much dilapidated at present, possesses some importance from archaeological point of view on account of symmetry of its proportions. It is built on a big platform of stone and consists of a *Mandapa* and a *Garbhagriha*. The *Mandapa* has three porches over three sides. The *Sikhara* of the temple has fallen down and the top has been made water-tight by a round cap of concrete. An inscription dated V.S. 1695: corresponding to 1638 A.D., records some later donations to this temple.

The Government of Rajasthan have taken over this building of Archaeological interest so that it may be properly preserved.

TODGARH—Col. Tod had made a fort here. Its original name is: Boraswara. There is a temple of *Mahadeoji* at Daalia, where a fair is held every year on *Baisakh Sudi 15*. At a distance of two miles from Todgarh, there is a temple of *Piplajmata* where a fair is held every year on *Bhadva Sudi 9*. According to the Census of 1951, the village has a population of 3,634. The village has an outpost under Jawaja Police Station of Beawar Circle, a hospital with 12 beds, a higher secondary school and a post office.

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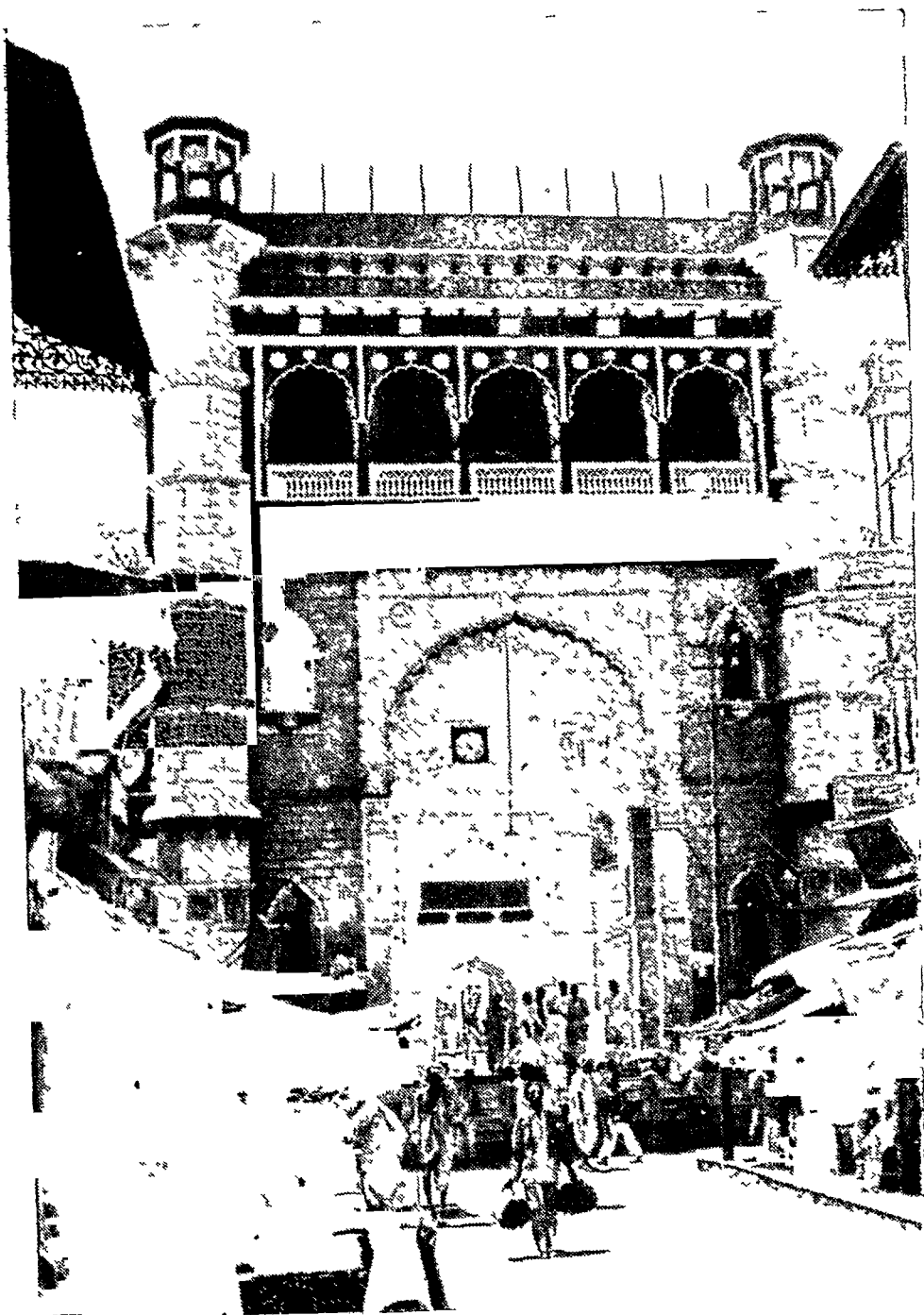
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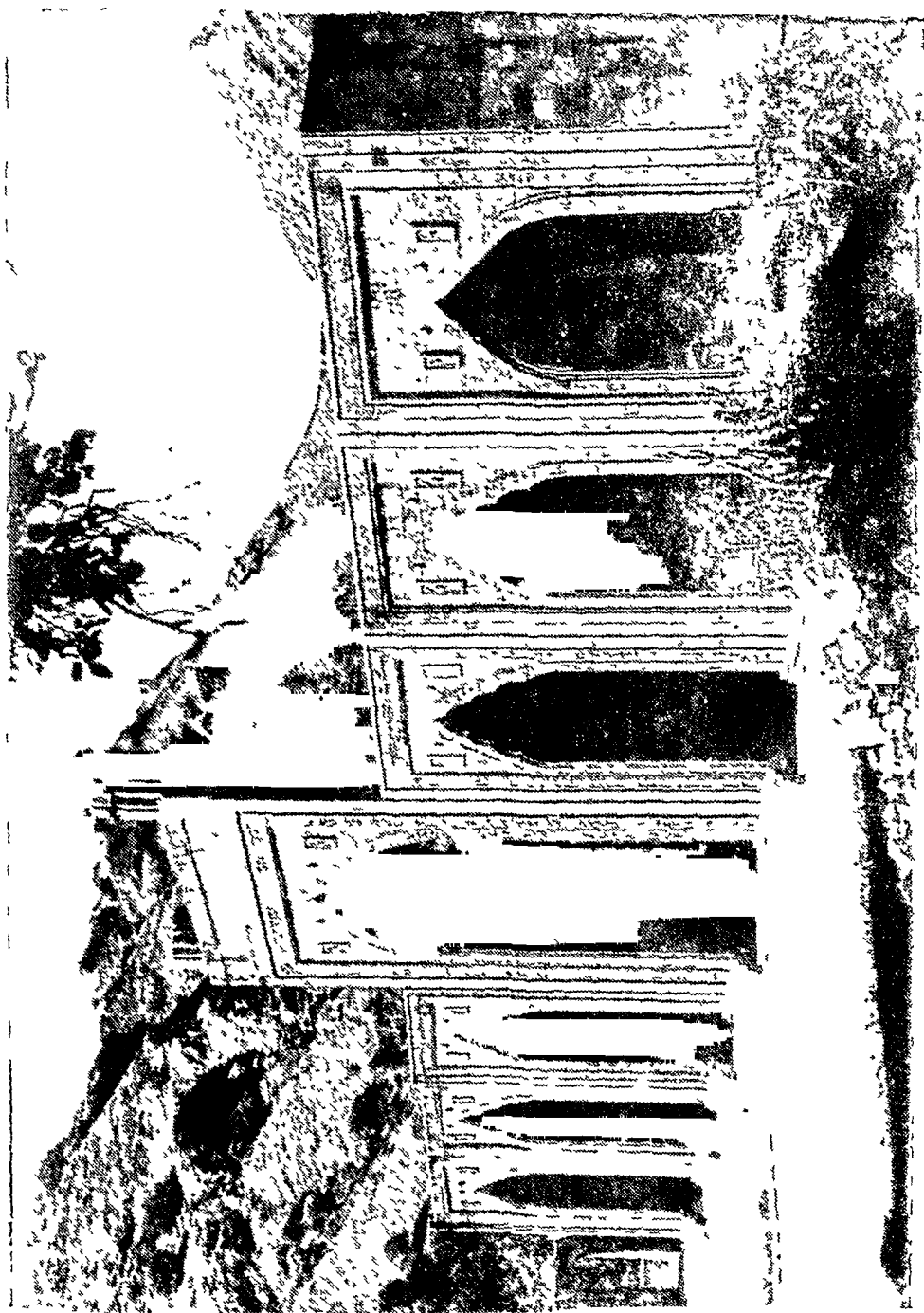
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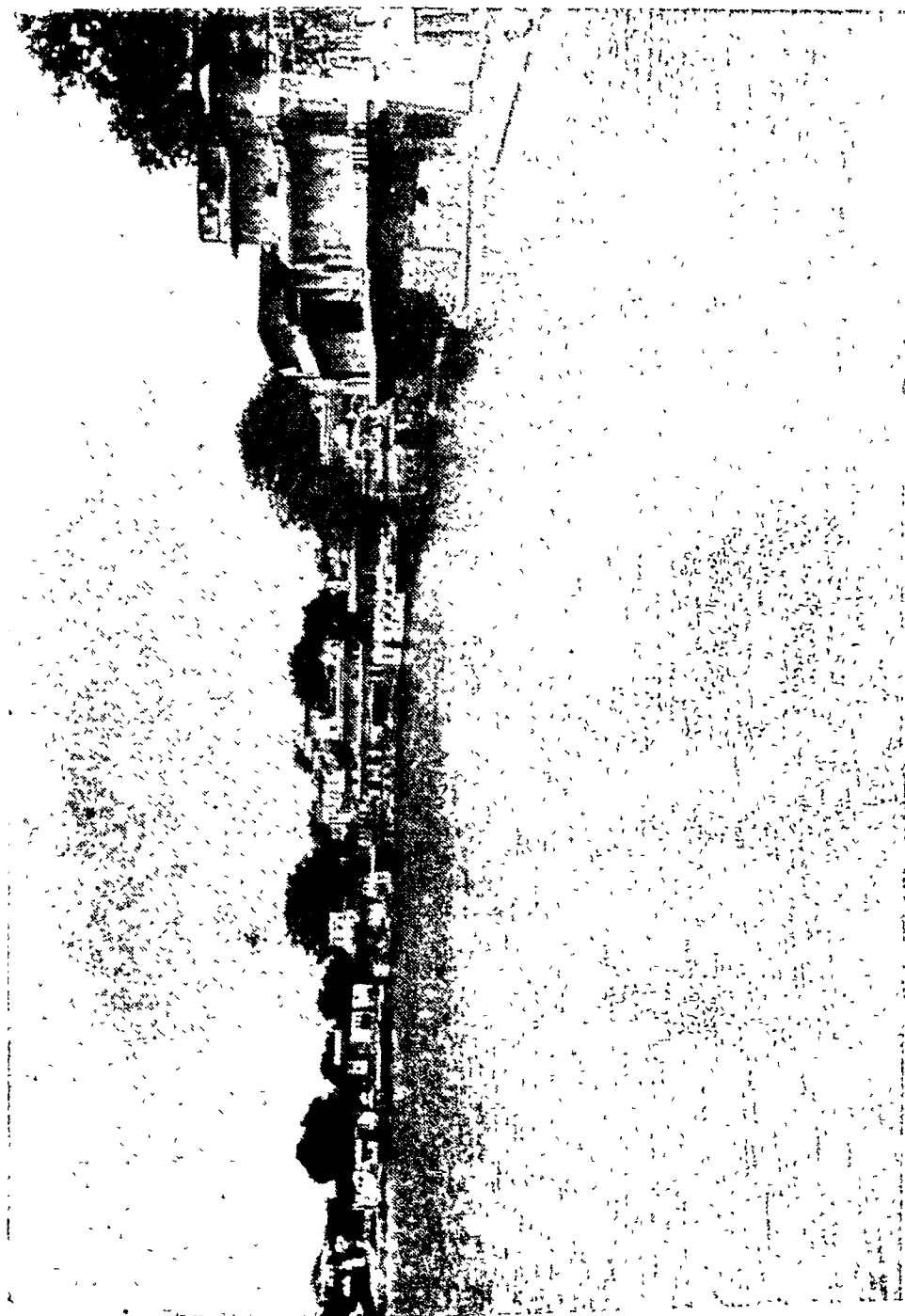


Main Gate of Dargah.

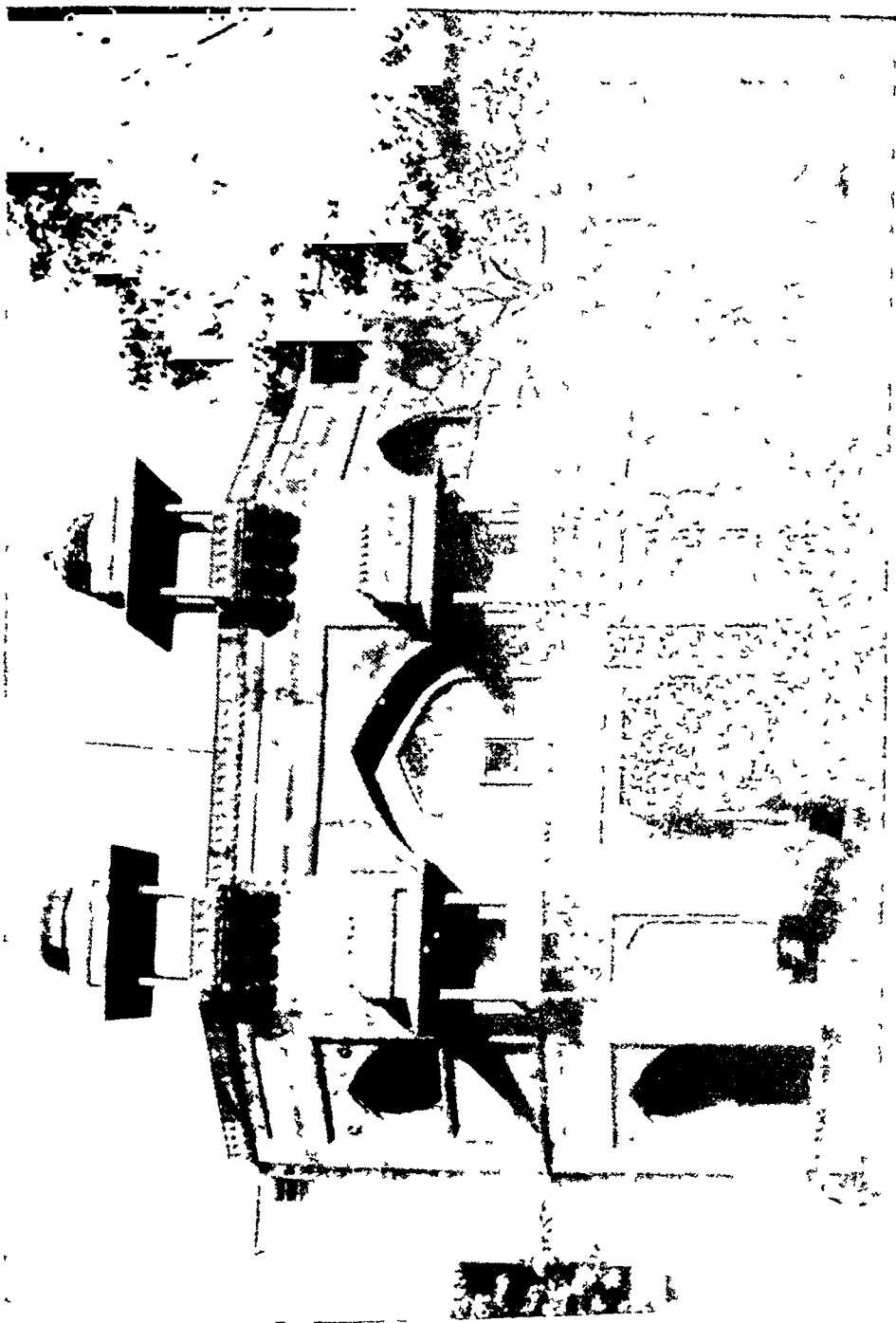




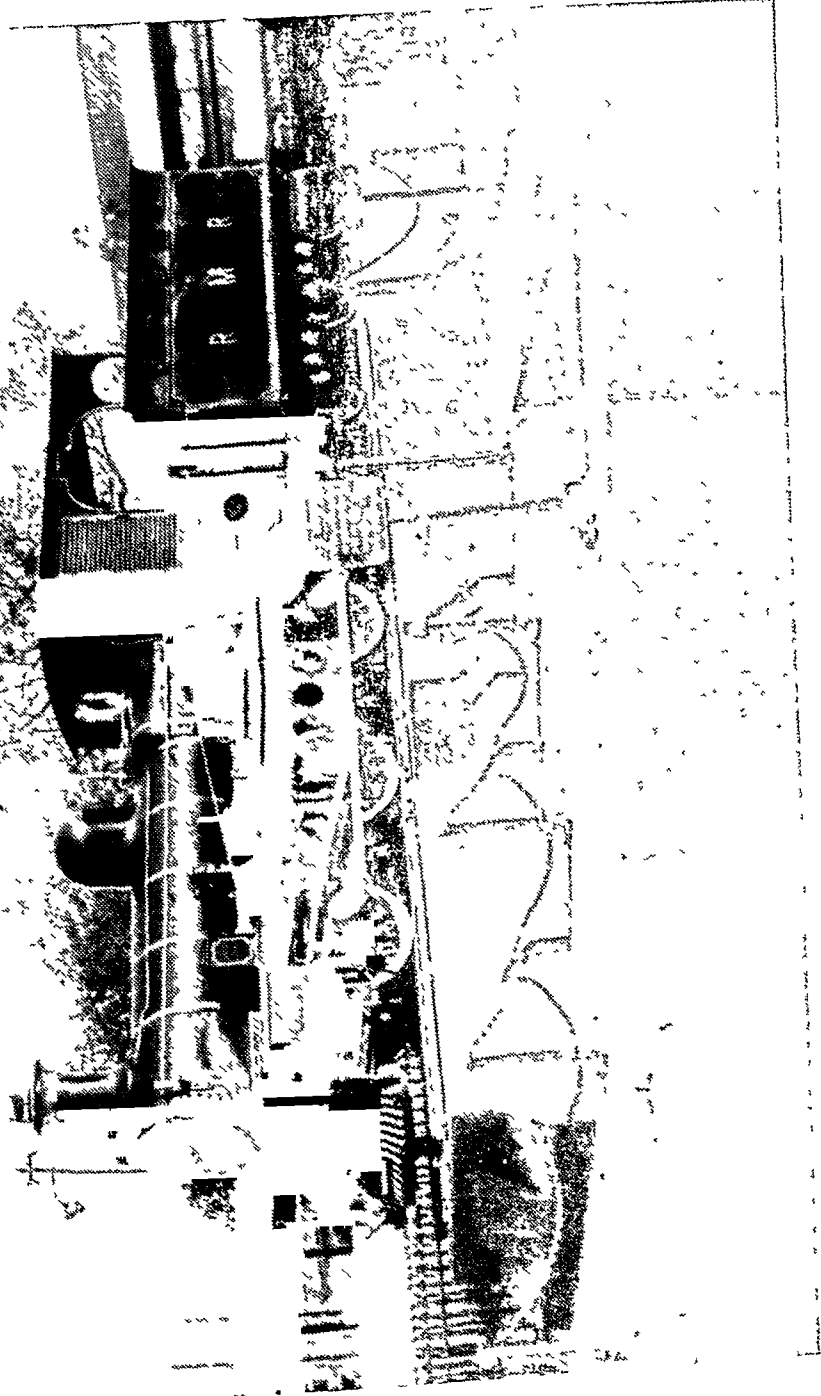
Nasiyan,



A view of the P. H. H. I. also



The Magazine Gate (Jahangir received Sir Thomas Roe at the window seen over the main gate).



The first Railway Engine built at the Locomotive Workshop,
Ajmer by Rajputana-Malwa Railway (Built in 1895 A.D.
at a cost of Rs. 15,869 and condemned in the year 1958).



Shramdan in 1960 (Village Chourasiawas, Panchayat Srinagar. An irrigation tank estimated to have cost Rs. 21,400 out of which people's participation amounted to Rs. 7,230).